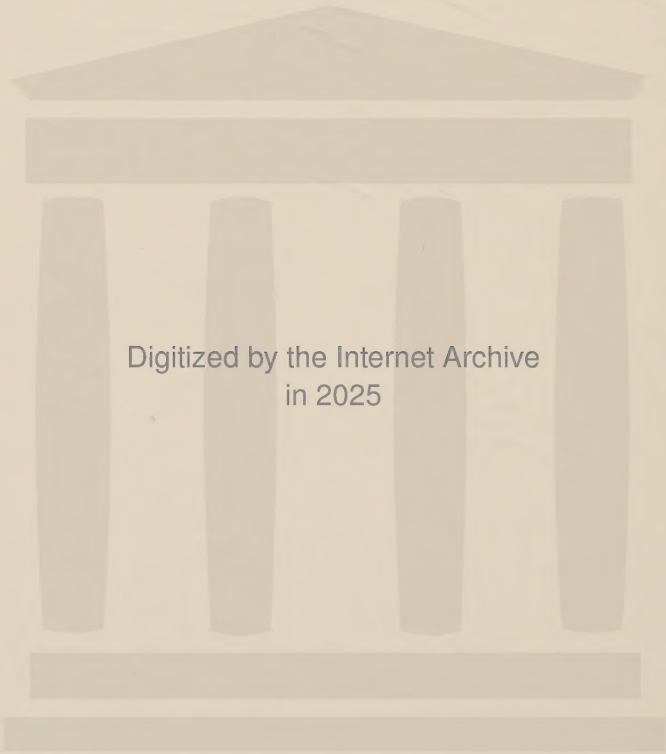

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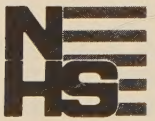

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THE

# WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

## OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

## UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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PREPARED BY

The late Lieut. Col. ROBERT N. SCOTT, Third U. S. Artillery.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR, Secretary of War,

BY

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MR. LESLIE J. PERRY,
MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,
*Board of Publication.*


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**SERIES I—VOLUME XXXIII.**

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1891.

# PREFACE.

By an act approved June 23, 1874, Congress made an appropriation "to enable the Secretary of War to begin the publication of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, both of the Union and Confederate Armies," and directed him "to have copied for the Public Printer all reports, letters, telegrams, and general orders not heretofore copied or printed, and properly arranged in chronological order."

Appropriations for continuing such preparation have been made from time to time, and the act approved June 16, 1880, has provided "for the printing and binding, under direction of the Secretary of War, of 10,000 copies of a compilation of the Official Records (Union and Confederate) of the War of the Rebellion, so far as the same may be ready for publication, during the fiscal year"; and that "of said number 7,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 2,000 copies for the use of the Senate, and 1,000 copies for the use of the Executive Departments."*

* Volumes I to V distributed under act approved June 16, 1880. The act approved August 7, 1882, provides that—

"The volumes of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion shall be distributed as follows: One thousand copies to the Executive Departments, as now provided by law. One thousand copies for distribution by the Secretary of War among officers of the Army and contributors to the work. Eight thousand three hundred copies shall be sent by the Secretary of War to such libraries, organizations, and individuals as may be designated by the Senators, Representatives, and Delegates of the Forty-seventh Congress. Each Senator shall designate not exceeding twenty-six, and each Representative and Delegate not exceeding twenty-one of such addresses, and the volumes shall be sent thereto from time to time as they are published, until the publication is completed. Senators, Representatives, and Delegates shall inform the Secretary of War in each case how many volumes of those heretofore published they have forwarded to such addresses. The remaining copies of the eleven thousand to be published, and all sets that may not be ordered to be distributed as provided herein, shall be sold by the Secretary of War for cost of publication with ten per cent. added thereto, and the proceeds of such sale shall be covered into the Treasury. If two or more sets of said volumes are ordered to the same address the Secretary of War shall inform the Senators, Representatives, or Delegates, who have designated the same, who thereupon may designate other libraries, organizations, or individuals. The Secretary of War shall report to the first session of the Forty-eighth Congress what volumes of the series heretofore published have not been furnished to such libraries, organizations, and individuals. He shall also inform distributees at whose instance the volumes are sent."

This compilation will be the first general publication of the military records of the war, and will embrace all official documents that can be obtained by the compiler, and that appear to be of any historical value.

The publication will present the records in the following order of arrangement:

The **1st Series** will embrace the formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States, and of all military operations in the field, with the correspondence, orders, and returns relating specially thereto, and, as proposed, is to be accompanied by an Atlas.

In this series the reports will be arranged according to the campaigns and several theaters of operations (in the chronological order of the events), and the Union reports of any event will, as a rule, be immediately followed by the Confederate accounts. The correspondence, &c., not embraced in the "reports" proper will follow (first Union and next Confederate) in chronological order.

The **2d Series** will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns, Union and Confederate, relating to prisoners of war, and (so far as the military authorities were concerned) to State or political prisoners.

The **3d Series** will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Union authorities (embracing their correspondence with the Confederate officials) not relating specially to the subjects of the *first* and *second* series. It will set forth the annual and special reports of the Secretary of War, of the General-in-Chief, and of the chiefs of the several staff corps and departments; the calls for troops, and the correspondence between the national and the several State authorities.

The **4th Series** will exhibit the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Confederate authorities, similar to that indicated for the Union officials, as of the *third* series, but excluding the correspondence between the Union and Confederate authorities given in that series.

ROBERT N. SCOTT,
*Major Third Art., and Bvt. Lieut. Col.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, *August* 23, 1880.

Approved:

ALEX. RAMSEY,
*Secretary of War.*

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# 1864.

| | Sunday. | Monday. | Tuesday. | Wednesday. | Thursday. | Friday. | Saturday. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ... | 1 | 2 |
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| Feb... | .... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
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| July .. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 2 |
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| | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | 31 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
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| | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | .... | .... | .... |
| Dec... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

CHAPTER XLV.

# OPERATIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA.

**January 1–April 30, 1864.**

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## SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.*

Dec. 31, 1863–Jan. 5, 1864.—Operations in Hampshire and Hardy Counties, W. Va.

Jan. 1, 1864.—Affair at Bunker Hill, W. Va.
Skirmish at Rectortown, Va.

1–4, 1864.—Expedition from Bealeton to Front Royal, Va.

3, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Charlestown, W. Va., to Winchester, Va., and skirmish.
Skirmish at Jonesville, Va. †

4, 1864.—Affair at Lockwood's Folly Inlet, N. C. ‡

6, 1864.—Affair at Flint Hill, Va.

7, 1864.—Skirmish at Warrenton, Va.

8, 1864.—Skirmish at Moorefield Junction, W. Va.

9, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren, U. S. Army, temporarily in command of Second Army Corps.

10, 1864.—Skirmish at Loudoun Heights, Va.
Skirmish at Petersburg, W. Va.
Scout to Sperryville, Va.

11, 1864.—Affair at Lockwood's Folly Inlet, N. C.§

12, 1864.—Affair near Accotink, Va.
Affair near Ellis' Ford, Va.

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*Of some of the minor conflicts noted in this Summary no circumstantial reports are on file. All such are designated in the Index.

†See Vol. XXXII, Part I, p. 57.

‡Between U. S. Navy and Confederate batteries. See Whiting's dispatches, January 4 and 5, *post;* and for report of Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. Lee, U. S. Navy (of the destruction of the Bendigo), see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

§See Acting Rear-Admiral Lee's report of the destruction of the steamers Ranger and Vesta (blockade-runners), Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

Jan. 12–14, 1864.—Raid on the Northern Neck, Va.
13, 1864.—Affair near Ely's Ford, Va.
15, 1864.—Skirmish near Petersburg, W. Va.
16, 1864.—Affair near Turkey Creek, Va.
17, 1864.—Affairs near Ellis' and Ely's Fords, Va.
18, 1864.—Affair at Flint Hill, Va.
19–24, 1864.—Scouts from Williamsburg, Va.
20–29, 1864.—Operations in the District of North Carolina.
22, 1864.—Affair at Ellis' Ford, Va.
Skirmish at Germantown, Va.
23–25, 1864.—Scout from Charlestown, W. Va., to Woodstock, Va.
24–25, 1864.—Expedition up the James River, Va.
27, 1864.—Brig. Gen. John C. Caldwell, U. S. Army, temporarily in command of Second Army Corps.
Affair near Thoroughfare Mountain, Va.
27–Feb. 7, 1864.—Operations in Hampshire and Hardy Counties, W. Va.
28, 1864.—Maj. Gen. David B. Birney, U. S. Army, temporarily in command of Third Army Corps.
28–Feb. 10, 1864.—Expedition against New Berne, N. C.
29, 1864.—Affair near Gloucester Court-House, Va.
29–Feb. 1, 1864.—Expedition to Isle of Wight County, Va., skirmishes near Benn's Church and at Smithfield, and destruction of the U. S. steamer Smith Briggs.
30, 1864.—Skirmish at Windsor, N. C.
Scout from Culpeper to Madison Court-House, Va.
31, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Madison Court-House and Mount Carmel Church, Va.

Feb. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Bristoe Station, Va.
2, 1864.—Skirmish near Strasburg, Va.
3, 1864.—Capture of the steamer Levi, Kanawha River, W. Va.
5, 1864.—Skirmish near Aldie, Va.
Affair at Winchester, Va.
6, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren, U. S. Army, temporarily in command of Second Army Corps.
6–7, 1864.—Demonstration on the Rapidan, including engagement at Morton's Ford and skirmishes at Barnett's and Culpeper Fords, Va.
6–8, 1864.—Expedition from Yorktown against Richmond, Va., including skirmishes at Bottom's Bridge and near Baltimore Store.
7, 1864.—Affair at Waccomo Neck, N. C.
9, 1864.—Reconnaissance toward Swansborough, N. C.
11, 1864.—Gilmor's raid on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.
14, 1864.—Affair near Brentsville, Va.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Laurel Creek, Wayne County, W. Va.*
16, 1864.—Affair at Fairfield, N. C.
17, 1864.—Maj. Gen. William H. French, U. S. Army, resumes command of Third Army Corps.
17–18, 1864.—Scout from Warrenton, and skirmish near Piedmont, Va.
20, 1864.—Skirmishes at Upperville and Front Royal, Va.
Affair near Hurricane Bridge, W. Va.
21–22, 1864.—Scout from New Creek to Moorefield, W. Va.
Skirmishes near Circleville and Dranesville, Va.
24, 1864.—General Braxton Bragg, C. S. Army, charged with the conduct of military operations in the Armies of the Confederacy.

*See Vol. XXXII, Part I, p. 394.

Feb 25, 1864.—Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, assigned to command of the Trans-Alleghany or Western Department of Virginia, relieving Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones.
28, 1864.—Scout in Gloucester County, Va.
28–Mar. 1, 1864.—Custer's raid into Albemarle County, Va.
28–Mar. 4, 1864.—Kilpatrick's expedition against Richmond, Va.
29–Mar. 1, 1864.—Skirmishes at Ballahock, on Bear Quarter road, and at Deep Creek, Va.
29–Mar. 5, 1864.—Expedition to Petersburg and destruction of saltpeter-works near Franklin, W. Va.
Mar. 3, 1864.—Skirmish near Petersburg, W. Va.
4–5, 1864.—Demonstration on Portsmouth, Va.
5, 1864.—Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of Western Virginia.
Raid on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.
6, 1864.—Skirmish at Snickersville, Va.
9, 1864.—Skirmish near Greenwich, Va.
Skirmish near Suffolk, Va.
9–12, 1864.—Expedition into King and Queen County, Va.
9–22, 1864.—Expedition to the Piankatank, and skirmish at Cricket Hill, Va.
10, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Franz Sigel, U. S. Army, supersedes Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, in command of the Department of West Virginia.
Skirmishes near Charlestown and at Kabletown, W. Va.
12, 1864.—Lieut. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, U. S. Army, assigned to command of the Armies of the United States, and Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck assigned as chief of staff of these armies.
14, 1864.—The Ninth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John G. Parke, U. S. Army, commanding, ordered from East Tennessee to Annapolis, Md.
16, 1864.—Brig. Gen. Orlando B. Willcox, U. S. Army, temporarily in command of the Ninth Army Corps.
Affair near Annandale, Va.
Skirmish at Bristoe Station, Va.
16–18, 1864.—Scout in Cabell and Wayne Counties, W. Va.
Reconnaissance toward Snicker's Gap, Va.
17–18, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Sperryville, Va.
17–21, 1864.—Expedition from Yorktown into Mathews and Middlesex Counties, Va.
19, 1864.—Scout to Salem and Orleans, Va.
22, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Lewis Wallace, U. S. Army, supersedes Brig. Gen. Henry H. Lockwood in command of the Middle Department.
Affair at Winchester, Va.
23, 1864.—The First Army Corps discontinued and troops assigned to the Fifth Army Corps.
Maj. Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren, U. S. Army, supersedes Maj. Gen. George Sykes in command of the Fifth Army Corps.
24, 1864.—The Third Army Corps discontinued and troops distributed to the Second and Sixth Army Corps.
Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, U. S. Army, resumes command of Second Army Corps.
25, 1864.—Brig. Gen. David McM. Gregg, U. S. Army, supersedes Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton in command of the Cavalry Corps.
25–26, 1864.—Expedition to Bogue and Bear Inlets, N. C.
26, 1864.—Skirmish near Black Jack Church, N. C.

Mar. 28, 1864.—Scout in Gloucester County, Va.
Affair at Bloomery Gap, W. Va.
28–29, 1864.—Scout to Aldie and Middleburg, Va.
30, 1864.—Capture of Confederate outpost at Cherry Grove, Va. *
Apr. 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Plymouth, N. C.
2, 1864.—Destruction of Cape Lookout Light, N. C.
4, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, U. S. Army, assigned to the command of the Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac.
5, 1864.—Affair near Blount's Creek, N. C.
6, 1864.—The Department of the Monongahela merged into the Department of the Susquehanna.
Brig. Gen. James B. Ricketts, U. S. Army, temporarily commanding the Sixth Army Corps.
7, 1864.—Longstreet's army corps ordered to rejoin the Army of Northern Virginia.
8, 1864.—Skirmish at Winchester, Va.
11, 1864.—Affair near Greenwich, Va.
12–14, 1864.—Expedition from Point Lookout, Md., to Westmoreland County, Va.
13, 1864.—Affair near Nokesville, Va.
Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick, U. S. Army, resumes command of the Sixth Army Corps.
Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside, U. S. Army, resumes command of the Ninth Army Corps.
13–15, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Portsmouth to the Blackwater, Va.
Expedition from Norfolk to Isle of Wight County, Va., and skirmishes near Cherry Grove Landing and at Smithfield.
15, 1864.—Affairs near Bristoe Station and Milford, Va.
16, 1864.—Affair near Catlett's Station, Va.
17, 1864.—Skirmish at Beaver Creek, N. C.
Affair near Ellis' Ford, Va.
17–20, 1864.—Capture of Plymouth, N. C.
18, 1864.—General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, assigned to command of the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.
19, 1864.—Affair at Leesburg, Va.
Affair at Marling's Bottom, W. Va.
21, 1864.—Destruction of salt-works at Masonborough Inlet, N. C.
23, 1864.—Affair near Hunter's Mills, Va.
24, 1864.—Skirmish near Middletown, Va.
25, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., C. S. Army, assigned to command of the Department of Richmond.
26, 1864.—Affair at Winchester, Va.
26–30, 1864.—Evacuation of Washington, N. C.
27–29, 1864.—Expedition from Williamsburg and skirmish at Twelve-Mile Ordinary, Va.
Affairs at Masonborough Inlet, N. C. †
28, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Madison Court-House, Va.
28–May 1, 1864.—Scout from Vienna toward Upperville, Va.
29–30, 1864.—Expedition from Newport Barracks to Swansborough, N. C.

* By boats from the U. S. steamer Commodore Barney. See Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

† Between the U. S. steamer Niphon and Confederate batteries. For report of Actg. Vol. Lieut. Joseph B. Breck, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

## DECEMBER 31, 1863–JANUARY 5, 1864.—Operations in Hampshire and Hardy Counties, W. Va.

### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding Department of West Virginia.

No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, C. S. Army, commanding expedition.

### No. 1.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding Department of West Virginia.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 3, 1864.
(Received 8 a. m., 4th.)

Just received information that Lee's and Rosser's forces were besieging Colonel Thoburn at Petersburg. Thoburn has three small regiments and a battery, and a good position. I have no force to send to relieve him without exposing all my stores. Sullivan reports Early as having fallen back to Middletown, anticipating an attack on his flank from General Meade's army crossing at Front Royal. He has 5,000 men. Colonel Boyd was in Winchester to-day. Reports about 700 cavalry at Kernstown. Have ordered Averell to go to Winchester to-morrow with all of his available cavalry. It now appears that Lee has detached a large force and sent them into these valleys. If General Meade would send a strong cavalry force into the Luray Valley it would be an important movement to us. I now fear it is their intention to destroy the railroad, and drive me from New Creek and this place.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

—

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 4, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 1 p. m.)

I have nothing new from Colonel Thoburn this morning. The enemy captured his returning empty train yesterday, and are now between him and New Creek. I am concentrating my troops at New Creek as rapidly as I can form my scattered troops. I trust Thoburn will hold out till I can relieve him. The railroad all safe yet.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

—

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 9.10 p. m.)

The enemy drove in the cavalry pickets at New Creek this p. m. I fear he will attack me here before my re-enforcements arrive. I think

he left a force to engage Thoburn, and pushed on a portion to attack New Creek or this place. New Creek is pretty well fortified; this is not. The wires, I fear, will be cut to-night.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington.*

—

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 5, 1864—9 a. m.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

My re-enforcements have all arrived. I am now ready for Lee and Rosser. Thoburn is yet safe at Petersburg. The enemy have kept beyond the reach of his guns. As soon as the men get rested we will relieve Thoburn. The railroad, telegraph line, and public property are yet all safe—9 a. m.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

—

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 7, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 10.15 p. m.)

Dispatch just received from Colonel Thoburn, First Virginia Infantry, commanding at Petersburg, advises me that the rebels have fallen back from the valley of the South Branch toward the Shenandoah Valley, and will doubtless join Early near Strasburg or Mount Jackson. Quite a number of deserters have come into Thoburn's camp. They report the troops in South Branch Valley to have been three brigades—Lee's, Rosser's, and Walker's—all under Fitzhugh Lee. They report their failure to take Petersburg, New Creek, and Cumberland to be because they could not get their artillery forward, in consequence of the roads. They had no train; were compelled to subsist on the country. They have suffered terribly. The raid thus far to them has been severe, while they have not been able to inflict any injury on us.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

—

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 8, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 11 p. m.)

The following dispatch just received from Lieutenant Myers, commanding scouts. The force referred to in this dispatch is the same that threatens New Creek. The troops that were threatening Colonel Thoburn at Petersburg retreated through Moorefield toward War-

densville, at which point, I presume, they will form a junction, then proceed to the valley, and reach Early at Strasburg or Mount Jackson :

ROMNEY, W. VA.,
*January* 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY :

Arrived safely. No enemy in or about Romney since Wednesday evening. The force that left Romney Wednesday evening was commanded by Fitzhugh Lee and Rosser—1,500 cavalry ; no artillery. They had left their artillery above Moorefield. They went by Grassy Lick road. They had pressed some teams at Romney. The teams got back to-day to Romney. The left rear of rebel force at 12 o'clock yesterday was on Wardensville and Moorefield pike. This force is said to be greatly demoralized. Several of their men froze to death on the road. General Fitzhugh Lee very badly frozen. They were much alarmed ; afraid they would be cut off by your forces from Martinsburg.

MYERS,
*Lieutenant, Commanding Scouts.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 9, 1864.

We have been threatened for several days by a large cavalry force under command of General Fitzhugh Lee, but he has now retreated toward the Shenandoah Valley, having been foiled in all of his attempts to take any of our outposts, or to capture any public stores, or to inflict any damage on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The raid of Major-General Early on us, in retaliation for the active movements of the troops in this department, has thus far been a complete failure. The railroad is perfectly safe, trains making regular trips from Baltimore to Wheeling and Parkersburg.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General BROOKS.

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No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, C. S. Army, commanding expedition.*

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 11, 1864.

GENERAL : I have the honor to report, as subsequent to a preceding report of my operations while under your command, that I left Mount Jackson upon December 31, 1863, and marched to Moorefield across North Mountain on the Orkney Springs road. Found the mountain so steep in the ascent and descent that my artillery and a train of wagons from the Valley quartermaster's department were unable to follow, and results which were expected to ensue from their presence, of course, could not in their absence be realized. At Moorefield learned that the force of 800 or 900 of the enemy still remained at Petersburg. Reconnoitered and found that they were intrenched with abatis. The greater part of my ammunition being wet, owing to starting in a snow and rain storm, and having no artillery, I decided not to attack them, and moved upon their line of communication toward New Creek Depot. Captured a train of

forty wagons (6 mules and horses to each wagon), loaded principally with artillery ammunition and hides, and 250 head of cattle, 120 being driven out and the remainder lost in driving them at night over the mountains. Marched on to Burlington. Captured at that place and at Williamsport and McLemar's Church some prisoners and supplies, and burnt the block-houses which the enemy abandoned in his flight. Although not an object of the expedition, it was determined to cut the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at New Creek Depot; so marched to Ridgeville and encamped at that place upon the night of the 4th instant. Marched at 4 o'clock next morning in a hail-storm, and though a point was reached within 6 miles of the depot, on account of the sufferings of my men and the impassability of the mountain passes to my smooth-shod horses was unable to proceed farther, so countermarched, and passing through Romney, returned to Harrisonburg via Brock's Gap, it being the only practicable route back to the valley.

Major Gilmor, who had been left with his own command and that of Captain McNeill to hold the gap on the Moorefield and Petersburg road, and to protect my flank and rear, in the mean time moved to Romney, and from thence to Springfield. The enemy, reported at 800 strong, with some artillery, abandoning the latter place in the night, Major Gilmor brought off about 3,000 pounds of bacon and some hard bread, horseshoes, nails, &c., and burnt the forage and other stores there and the winter quarters of the troops.

I secured on the expedition 27 wagons (8 of the original 40 being smashed up and burnt at the place of attack, and 5 overturned and abandoned in the mountains on the route back), 110 prisoners with their arms, &c., 460 head of cattle (lost between 100 and 200 traveling in the mountains at night, and which have since been sent back for, and if obtained will add up the number of head to over 600), and over 300 horses and mules.

Lost 2 men killed and 2 wounded in the attack on the train, and 1 left at Moorefield with feet frozen to such an extent that the surgeon thinks they will have to be amputated. My whole command were more or less frost-bitten, and suffered a great deal, the weather being excessively cold during the whole trip; the ground was covered with snow and ice in going up and down the various mountains.

From my own observation and knowledge gained from my intercourse with the citizens of Hampshire and Hardy Counties, I have ascertained there are very little supplies to be obtained in these counties. Several hundred head of cattle and some sheep on Patterson's Creek and the South Branch of Potomac would perhaps include everything, and the reason is apparent from the fact of the occupation of the country by the enemy from the commencement of the war. Averell was reported to have reached Grafton and to have been sent with his command on the cars to Martinsburg, the enemy judging that place would be the point of attack. My command has marched since the 11th of last month 555 miles in weather of uncommon severity, and deserves praise for the endurance displayed and hardships undergone.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FITZ. LEE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding.*

**JANUARY 1, 1864.—Affair at Bunker Hill, W. Va.**

*January* 1.—A rebel division under General Early advanced as far down the valley as Winchester. Our pickets at Bunker Hill, 12 miles from Martinsburg, were driven in after a skirmish.* Owing to the excessive cold weather, no further demonstrations were made against the enemy. Scouting parties have been constantly kept out and all the neighboring country thoroughly scoured, resulting in the capture of a large number of prisoners and obtaining much valuable information.†

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**JANUARY 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Rectortown, Va.**

*Report of Maj. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion.*

JANUARY 4, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that during the month of December there were captured by this command over 100 horses and mules and about 100 prisoners. A considerable number of the enemy have also been killed and wounded. It would be too tedious to mention the various occasions on which we have met the enemy, but there is one which justice to a brave officer demands to be noticed. On the morning of January 1, I received information that a body of the enemy's cavalry were in Upperville. It being the day on which my command was to assemble, I directed Capt. William R. Smith to take command of the men while I went toward Upperville to ascertain the movements of the enemy. In the mean time the enemy had gone on toward Rectortown, and I pursued, but come up just as Captain Smith with about 35 men had attacked and routed them (78 strong), killing, wounding, and capturing 57.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. MOSBY,
*Major, Commanding.*

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, *February* 13, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

A subsequent report of subsequent operations has been already sent in, this having been mislaid. Major Mosby continues his distinguished services in the enemy's rear, relieving our people of the depredations of the enemy in a great measure.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

A characteristic report from Colonel Mosby, who has become so familiar with brave deeds as to consider them too tedious to treat unless when necessary to reflect glory on his gallant comrades. Captain Smith's was a brilliant and most successful affair.

J. A. S.

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*See Averell to Kelley, January 1, in Correspondence, &c., p. 321.

†From monthly return of First Division, Department of West Virginia.

**JANUARY 1-4, 1864.—Expedition from Bealeton to Front Royal, Va.**

*Report of Col. John P. Taylor, First Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding expedition.*

HDQRS. DETACHMENT SECOND DIV., CAV. CORPS,
*January* 4, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In pursuance to instructions from the major-general commanding, dated 6.30 p. m., December 31, 1863, received by me 12.05 a. m., January 1, 1864, I have the honor to report that I left my camp with part of the Second Brigade at 7 a. m., January 1, 1864, and arrived at Warrenton at 1 p. m., where I found Lieutenant-Colonel Kester, commanding First Brigade, Second Division, in readiness, save the two regiments on picket, and not deeming it proper to wait longer for the First Brigade, First Division, which was to relieve my pickets and take position at this point, I at once determined to proceed with the force I had, save Captain Randol's battery, which on account of the badness of the roads I deemed prudent to send back to camp at Bealeton and take Lieutenant Egan's battery of rifled guns.

I left Warrenton at 2.30 p. m., taking the Waterloo pike as far as Hedgeman River; thence taking road to Orleans, making a cold and weary march, at which place I arrived after dark and went into camp. At daylight on the morning of the 2d January I took up line of march for Chester Gap, 19 miles distant, over an almost impracticable road, as far as what is called Chester Gap grade, and at that point to gain the grade my artillery was obliged to double their trains.

From this point I found the road in good condition, save but one exception of 300 yards, which was very bad. I reached Front Royal about dark. Sending Lieutenant-Colonel Kester with 500 cavalry to examine the fords of the Shenandoah, and to ascertain if a communication could be established with Winchester, Lieutenant-Colonel Kester reported it utterly impracticable. I then went into camp. Early on the morning of the 3d January I went to the ford myself to examine and try it, and found it, as it had been reported to me the night previous, utterly impracticable, even for cavalry, and from the signs of the weather at this point it was evident that it could not be crossed at any point; even at Luray, 25 miles distant, it was reported unfordable. All the information gained from different sources corroborated the report that Rosser and Imboden, with about 2,800 cavalry, and General Early, with a considerable infantry force, were between Strasburg and New Market, and that the river between them and Winchester was also unfordable. No pickets of the enemy were to be seen on the opposite side of the river. Citizens said it was impossible for horsemen to cross even at Strasburg toward Front Royal.

My command being out of forage, and having but one day's rations, I determined, having fulfilled my mission, to return. I at once dispatched a staff officer with an escort of 100 men to report, and at 12 o'clock started on my return, by way of Manassas Gap and Salem, the road between these points being almost impassable from the severity of the weather, the mountain streams overflowing the roads from the recent rains and frozen for hundreds of yards, through which I was obliged to cut away the ice to enable my artillery to pass over. The weather was intensely cold, and I cannot but express

my admiration for the good conduct of my whole command, from the manner in which they withstood the hardships of this expedition of nearly 100 miles.

I arrived at Warrenton at 2.30 p. m., January 4, bringing with me 17 prisoners, 1 of whom was a commissioned officer; also one recaptured Government wagon and team, together with a number of horses. We destroyed one tannery and one distillery.

The First Brigade, First Division, did not arrive here until thirty-five hours after we had left.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding Second Division Cavalry.*

Capt. C. C. SUYDAM,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.*

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**JANUARY 3, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Charlestown, W. Va., to Winchester, Va., and skirmish.**

*Report of Col. William H. Boyd, Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Charlestown, Va., January 4, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, in obedience to orders from division headquarters of 3d January, 1864, to proceed to Winchester to develop the force of the enemy, that I left Charlestown and went to Winchester, by way of Berryville. All the way going there we were told a large force were in Winchester. Upon nearing the town I divided my force, about 300 men, so as to cover all approaches or exits, except on the west side, and then dashed in simultaneously. A perfect skedaddle took place; a great many rebels took to the houses and were lost. We captured 6 and killed 1, and mortally wounded a Captain Armstrong. From citizens and prisoners I learned that Imboden's camp had been on the outskirts of the town, on Cedar Creek road, and had about 800 men, but a telegram was received about 11 a. m. ordering him to fall back, as Meade's force was supposed to be crossing near Front Royal. Imboden began falling back between 1 and 2 p. m., and was in Newtown at 6 p. m., to which place I drove his pickets and finally his rear guard. It growing dark, I prudently retired to Charlestown, arriving in camp at 3 a. m., having traveled over 60 miles in seventeen hours.

The following items of information were gleaned, viz: That Fitzhugh Lee's and Rosser's cavalry had avoided Winchester and gone toward Moorefield, W. Va., and to Paw Paw tunnel, for the purpose of destroying it. Lee had Walker's (old Stonewall) brigade of infantry with him, in all about 3,000, two or three pieces of artillery, and some wagons. Early's division never came any lower down the valley than Middletown, and were there last night when I left Newtown. He has a large wagon train, artillery, and about 5,000 infantry. A report was prevalent and seemed to be well-founded that Fitzhugh Lee's forces were expected in Winchester at any moment, and this gained some credit with me, from the fact that numerous signals were exhibited—rockets and firing of guns (small). This impressed upon me the importance of retiring to a place of safety; hence my retreat,

or I would have camped for the night somewhere and renewed the attack this morning; besides, I had no forage with me for so long a stay. The enemy foraged very close, carrying off everything in the way of forage. After I had been in Winchester about an hour, and had started about 2 miles toward Newtown, Captain Johnson, of the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, from Martinsburg, reported to me with about 100 men. I sent them back to Bunker Hill on my return to Winchester. I am led to believe that there has never been a larger force than about 800 in or about Winchester within the last week. Col. George Imboden was with these forces, not General Imboden.

Believing that the object of the reconnaissance was fully accomplished, I respectfully submit this report.

I am, captain, with much respect, your obedient servant,

WM. H. BOYD,
*Colonel Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding.*

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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### JANUARY 6, 1864.—Affair at Flint Hill, Va.

*Report of Col. Charles M. Alexander, Second District of Columbia Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
*January 7*, 1864.

The cavalry pickets at Flint Hill were attacked last night by a dismounted party of 15 men, who fired about 30 shots, without doing any damage. The pickets fell back and the attacking party retreated. A company of cavalry was sent out, but failed to intercept them. All quiet to-night.

C. M. ALEXANDER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of Washington.*

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### JANUARY 7, 1864.—Skirmish at Warrenton, Va.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. David McM. Gregg, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Maj. James W. Walsh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.
No. 3.—Lieut. G. S. Luttrell Ward, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.
No. 4.—Maj. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion, including skirmish, January 10, at Loudoun Heights.

No. 1.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. David McM. Gregg, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*Warrenton, January 7*, 1864.

A party of Mosby's men made an attack this morning on the pickets of the First Brigade, resulting in the wounding of 1 officer and 7

men and the capture of 30 men and 40 horses. A force of 100 men sent in pursuit returned this evening. The pursuit was kept up as long as there was any hope of overtaking the party, and until the horses were broken down. Three prisoners captured from Mosby.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

Captain PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 8, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the commanding officer of the Cavalry Corps.

The commanding general desires an explanation of the delay in forwarding this intelligence, he having been unofficially advised of the circumstances last evening. A thorough investigation will at once be made into the affair, and report sent to these headquarters. It would seem that some one has been grossly derelict in duty.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 9, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that a full investigation has been had of the circumstances of the attack upon and capture of the picket reserve of the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry on the morning of the 7th.

The attack was made about 4.30, and by a force of the enemy estimated at about 50. At the hour it was very dark, and the wind was blowing violently. The attack upon the reserve was made from the rear, the enemy having gained the rear by passing through the picket-line (very probably in very small detachments), at a gap which should not have existed, and which was occasioned by the removal of a vedette from a point previously occupied. The responsibility of the removal of this vedette rests upon Lieutenant Warren, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry. This officer asserts that he acted by order of the brigade officer of the day. The brigade officer of the day denies having given the order for the removal of the vedette. The attack from the rear was unexpected and so sudden that the resistance offered was confused and ineffective. The officer in command was severely wounded, as were also 6 of his men. The entire loss on the occasion was 18 enlisted men captured, and 43 horses with equipments.

The reports furnished and examinations made convince me that the officer in command of the reserve is responsible for the disaster, which resulted from inattention and gross neglect of duty. The officers and enlisted men responsible will be brought to trial.

The intelligence of the affair was not at once communicated because of a force of 100 men having been sent in pursuit, which was confidently expected to overtake the enemy a short distance from Warrenton. It was desired to send with the report of a disgraceful

capture the more pleasant report of the capture of the enemy. The party continued the pursuit without success, and did not return to Warrenton until the middle of the afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,

*Brig. Gen. of Vols., Comdg. Second Cavalry Division.*

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Maj. James W. Walsh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,

*January* 7, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have just received a report from Captain Gillmore, who is picketing in my front, that the rebels charged on his reserve, coming from the Warrenton side, capturing all his horses, the greater portion of his men, and wounding a great many. The captain reports himself wounded. He wishes two ambulances to be sent out to bring in the wounded. I will have the picket-lines established in as quick time as possible. He reports the rebels having left in quick meter after collecting up the horses and men.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. WALSH,

*Major, Commanding Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

Captain WRIGHT,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Lieut. G. S. Luttrell Ward, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

CAMP OF THIRD PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,

*January* 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 5th day of January, 1864, Captain Gillmore relieved a detachment of the First Brigade, First Division, Cavalry Corps, on the Sulphur Springs road, taking up the line as established under the supervision of the brigade officer of the day.

Everything remained quiet on the line until the morning of the 7th, when the corporal of the fifth relief started from camp to relieve the pickets. On reaching No. 3 post he discovered 10 or 12 men drawn up in line at the post. He immediately reported the fact to Captain Gillmore, who sent me with 10 men to his support. In the mean time they had made good their retreat without firing a shot. I scouted around the whole line, finding No. 3 post vacant, but no other indications of the presence of an enemy. The pickets received additional instructions as to vigilance, and nothing further occurred until between the hours of 4 and 5, when the second relief started from camp. They had been gone but a short time when a

party of 35 or 40 men charged upon the camp from our rear, taking us totally by surprise. Their movements were hidden by a ridge, and the darkness and high wind which prevailed aided their attack. Captain Gillmore sprang to his feet, and in attempting to rally his men, many of whom were asleep, was shot down and surrounded by a dozen mounted men. At the same time 6 men were wounded and 18 captured. As we were weakened by the absence of two reliefs the command was totally overpowered and at the mercy of the enemy. It is my opinion that they entered the line between Captain Gillmore's extreme left post and the right of the First Pennsylvania pickets, considerable distance intervening. This opinion is strengthened from the fact that there was not a shot fired on the line, and in the morning I examined the ground, finding a trail through the snow at the point designated.

They retreated out the Sulphur Springs road, carrying with them 18 prisoners and 43 horses with their equipments, leaving 8 wounded, including Captain Gillmore, which comprised the whole command with the exception of 3 or 4 who escaped.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. S. LUTTRELL WARD,

*Second Lieutenant, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

Maj. J. W. WALSH.

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## No. 4.

*Report of Maj. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion, including skirmish, January 10, at Loudoun Heights.*

FEBRUARY 1, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this command since rendering my report of January 4:

On Wednesday, January 6, having previously reconnoitered in person the position of the enemy, I directed Lieutenant Turner, with a detachment of about 30 men, to attack an outpost of the enemy in the vicinity of Warrenton, which he did successfully, routing a superior force of the enemy, killing and wounding several, and capturing 18 prisoners and 45 horses, with arms, equipments, &c.

On Saturday, January 9, having learned through Frank Stringfellow (a scout of General Stuart) that Cole's (Maryland) cavalry was encamped on Loudoun Heights with no support but infantry, which was about one-half mile off, I left Upperville with about 100 men in hopes of being able to completely surprise his camp by a night attack. By marching my command by file along a narrow path I succeeded in gaining a position in rear of the enemy between their camp and the ferry. On reaching this point without creating any alarm I deemed that the crisis had passed and the capture of the camp of the enemy a certainty. I had exact information up to dark of that evening of the number of the enemy (which was between 175 and 200), the position of their headquarters, &c. When within 200 yards of the camp I sent Stringfellow on ahead with about 10 men to capture Major Cole and staff, whose headquarters were in a house about 100 yards from their camp, while I halted to close up my command. The camp was buried in profound sleep; there was not a sentinel awake. All my plans were on the eve of consummation

when suddenly the party sent with Stringfellow came dashing over the hill toward the camp yelling and shooting. They had made no attempt to secure Cole. Mistaking them for the enemy, I ordered my men to charge.

In the mean time the enemy had taken the alarm and received us with a volley from their carbines. A severe fight ensued, in which they were driven from their camp, but taking refuge in the surrounding houses kept up a desultory firing. Confusion and delay having ensued from the derangement of my plans, consequent on the alarm given to the enemy, rendered it hazardous to continue in my position, as re-enforcements were near the enemy. Accordingly I ordered the men to retire, which was done in good order, bringing off 6 prisoners and between 50 and 60 horses.

My loss was severe; more so in the worth than the number of the slain. It was 4 killed, 7 wounded (of whom 4 have since died), and 1 captured. A published list of the enemy's loss gives it at 5 killed and 13 wounded. Among those who fell on this occasion were Capt. William R. Smith and Lieutenant Turner, two of the noblest and bravest officers of this army, who thus sealed a life of devotion and of sacrifice to the cause that they loved.

In numerous other affairs with the enemy between 75 and 100 horses and mules have been captured, about 40 men killed, wounded, and captured. A party of this command also threw one of the enemy's trains off the track, causing a great smash-up.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. MOSBY,
*Major, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 9, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The conduct of Major Mosby is warmly commended to the notice of the commanding general. His sleepless vigilance and unceasing activity have done the enemy great damage. He keeps a large force of the enemy's cavalry continually employed in Fairfax in the vain effort to suppress his inroads. His exploits are not surpassed in daring and enterprise by those of *petite guerre* in any age. Unswerving devotion to duty, self-abnegation, and unflinching courage, with a quick perception and appreciation of the opportunity, are the characteristics of this officer. Since I first knew him in 1861 he has never once alluded to his own rank or promotion; thus far it has come by the force of his own merit. While self-consciousness of having done his duty well is the patriot soldier's best reward, yet the evidence of the appreciation of his country is a powerful incentive to renewed effort, which should not be undervalued by those who have risen to the highest point of military and civic eminence. That evidence is promotion. If Major Mosby has not won it, no more can daring deeds essay to do it. Capt. W. R. Smith, late lieutenant of Black Horse, has been long distinguished as one of the best cavalry leaders we have. Lieutenant Turner has won an enviable name. Both had inscribed their fame in old Fauquier imperishably in the blood of her enemies. All honor to the glorious dead.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

## JANUARY 10, 1864.—Skirmish at Loudoun Heights, Va.

### REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Maj. Henry A. Cole, Battalion Maryland Cavalry, Potomac Home Brigade.

### No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, U. S. Army.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 10, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 3 p. m.)

The following dispatch just received. I cheerfully comply with the request of General Sullivan in calling the attention of the General-in-Chief to the gallant conduct of Major Cole and his brave command. This repulse of a murderous attack, made by an overwhelming force at 4 o'clock on a dark, cold morning, evinces a discipline, a watchfulness, and a bravery most commendable:

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*January* 10, 1864.

General KELLEY,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

I have just returned from Major Cole's camp, and report the conduct of his men and officers as worthy of the highest praise. He was attacked about 4 o'clock from three sides of his camp by a force under Mosby of nearly 400 men. After severe fighting Mosby retreated, leaving his killed and wounded in our hands. Among the dead are 4 officers. Our loss is reported 2 killed and 11 wounded. Captain Vernon was seriously wounded in the left eye. I am pursuing the enemy, but with no hope of overtaking them. I request that the conduct of Major Cole, his officers, and men may be reported to the War Department.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

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### No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Henry A. Cole, Battalion Maryland Cavalry, Potomac Home Brigade.*

HDQRS. BATT. P. H. B. CAVALRY, MARYLAND VOLS.,
*Loudoun Heights, Va., January* 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor of addressing you for the purpose of reporting the facts of an attempt by Major Mosby's battalion of guerrilla cavalry to surprise and capture my camp, between the hours of 3 and 4 a. m. of this day.

They studiously avoided my pickets; divided themselves into small bodies, which were speedily consolidated in sight of my camp. They then made an impetuous charge with a yell on the right of the same. In consequence of the suddenness of the same this company could offer but a feeble resistance. In the mean time Company A,

* See also Mosby's report, p. 15.

the second in the line, was speedily rallied by its commanding officer, Captain Vernon, who contested their farther advance in such a sanguinary manner that [they] formed a rallying point for the balance of the command, who were now thoroughly aroused of the danger that threatened them, and one and all, from the officer to the private, entered into the contest with such a determined zest as led to the utter rout and discomfiture of the enemy, and the signal failure of their base attempt.

They experienced a loss of 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 2 privates killed, and 2 privates mortally wounded, and 1 prisoner. It was also very evident that they removed a large portion of their wounded with them in their precipitate flight, as a detachment of the command, subsequently sent in pursuit, found evidence of blood all along their line of retreat. I experienced a loss of 4 enlisted men killed and 16 wounded. Captain Vernon experienced a serious wound in the head, but it is the opinion of Batt. Surg. W. R. Way that it will not prove fatal. I am deeply indebted to the officers and men of my command for the daring displayed by them on this occasion, and earnestly commend them to the division commander for his favorable consideration.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. COLE,
*Major, Commanding.*

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ADDENDA.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

GENERAL: I have just received from your headquarters Maj. Henry A. Cole's report of the repulse of Mosby's attack upon his camp at Loudoun Heights on the 10th instant. Major Cole and his command, the battalion of Potomac Home Brigade Cavalry, Maryland Volunteers, deserve high praise for their gallantry in repelling this rebel assault.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

**JANUARY 10, 1864.—Scout to Sperryville, Va.**

*Report of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General Merritt reports a force out after guerrillas last night, and succeeded in capturing 6, including 1 lieutenant. They will be forwarded to your headquarters as soon as they arrive at these headquarters. The force went out as far as Sperryville and met with no loss.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

Major-General SEDGWICK.

**JANUARY 12, 1864.—Affair near Accotink, Va.**

*Report of Lieut. Col. Henry H. Wells, Provost-Marshal-General, Defenses South of the Potomac.*

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *January* 12, 1864.

COLONEL: My men have scouted as usual this morning. Near sunrise a squad of 6 rebel cavalry came near Accotink and captured 2 citizens and a number of horses. My men, 4 in number, with some of the Accotink Home Guard, pursued them and retook the prisoners and horses; also took 2 rebels prisoners and the horses and equipments of the whole party. The prisoners state that they belong to Hampton's division, and that Hampton has some 4,000 cavalry near Fredericksburg. These men belong to Gordon's brigade of Hampton's division. They were out gathering information as to the forces, &c., and they intended to make a raid on the railroad.

H. H. WELLS,
*Provost-Marshal-General.*

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff.*

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**JANUARY 12-14, 1864.—Raid on the Northern Neck, Va.**

*Report of Capt. John S. Braxton.*

CENTRE CROSS, *January* 18, 1864.

SIR: The enemy made a raid through the Northern Neck, landing at Kinsale, Westmoreland County, on the Potomac, on last Tuesday at 4 p. m. The force consisted of about 100 cavalry and the same of infantry, and passed directly through the county of Richmond into Lancaster and Northumberland, doing but very little damage other than taking a few negroes and horses, and embarked again on Thursday from a wharf on the Great Wicomico River, Northumberland County. The force came to Point Lookout from Norfolk a few days previous. They are increasing their force there (Point Lookout), I think, with a view to guard our prisoners, which have greatly increased at that point. The enemy returned again on Saturday, and commenced building a wharf on the Wicomico River, Northumberland County, but left again at night. The raid was a very small one, and I think indicates nothing of importance. No other movement on the Potomac.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. BRAXTON,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Major-General ELZEY.

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**JANUARY 13, 1864.—Affair near Ely's Ford, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, U. S. Army.*

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 14—8.30 a. m.

I regret to report that a non-commissioned officer and 6 men of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry were captured last evening while

patrolling to Ely's Ford, by a party of dismounted rebels, who crossed upon the ice and secreted themselves for that purpose. All quiet along my line at this hour.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff.*

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**JANUARY 17, 1864.—Affairs near Ellis' and Ely's Fords, Va.**

*January* 17.—The patrol of 1 sergeant and 7 men returning from Ellis' Ford were surrounded by the enemy in ambuscade and 7 men captured. At the same time the patrol of 1 sergeant and 8 men returning from Ely's Ford were fired upon from both sides of the road and rear by concealed dismounted men in dense pine woods; 1 man killed, 2 wounded, and 2 captured.

*January* 22.—The patrol of 1 commissioned officer and 30 men were attacked going to Ellis' Ford by a party of dismounted men in ambush. Loss, 1 man killed, 6 wounded, and 4 captured.*

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**JANUARY 18, 1864.—Affair at Flint Hill, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Robert O. Tyler, U. S. Army, commanding division.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, *January* 18, 1864.

Fifteen or 20 rebels attacked the picket at Flint Hill at about 2 o'clock this a. m., but were driven off by a volley. A few guerrillas have appeared, both last night and to-night, in the vicinity of our lines. Parties have been sent out to try and pick them up.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff, Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**JANUARY 19-24, 1864.—Scouts from Williamsburg, Va.**

*Reports of Maj. Edgar A. Hamilton, First New York Mounted Rifles.*

CAMP MOUNTED RIFLES,
*Near Williamsburg, Va., January* 20, 1864.

COLONEL: I report that agreeably to special orders from headquarters U. S. Forces at Williamsburg, Va., of January 19, transmitted to me for action, that I started from camp at 9 o'clock in the evening with a command of 140 men, moving cautiously forward on the Richmond turnpike road until we arrived nearly to the Twelve-

* From monthly return of First Brigade, Third Division, Cavalry Corps.

Mile Ordinary, where a dismounted party was sent forward to capture the enemy's scout, secreted in the woods, a trust of unusual delicacy, as their known watchfulness and dexterity had eluded all former attempts at capture. However, succeeding in this, we alarmed the surrounding couriers and scouts. Moving quickly forward we discovered that the couriers had been previously notified, and it was impossible to get near them. Upon our arrival at New Kent Court-House, and while forming the troops, the enemy's picket fired an alarm from the woods. Captain Hill with his troops moved forward, followed the picket in the direction of Bottom's Bridge for nearly a mile, charging upon the picket station of a lieutenant and 8 men, who, however, had time to mount and run or take to the swamps. He was here met by a severe fire from the woods, and soon discovered a small bivouac with five wagons full of meats, fish, and vegetables. Being unable to transport it back, I ordered it burned with the wagons.

Owing to the small number of my command, the foreknowledge of our approach by the enemy, the liability of being cut off, I deemed it imprudent to go to the White House, having secured from an old gentleman who had just left Richmond what I considered reliable news, namely, that there is no movement of public effects, no evacuation or unusual change in the military of the city; that the number of troops was limited. This information was confirmed as far as possible by repeated and indirect inquiries to other citizens.

Upon my return I captured 2 privates of the First Virginia Battery and also a surgeon of the Fifteenth Virginia Cavalry, together with 4 horses and a mule. The enemy's scouts on my return were scattered for a distance of 15 miles upon our flanks in coverts and swamps, and kept up a continual fire. Dismounted skirmishers kept them at a distance from the flanks, and with the exception of 1 horse wounded there were no casualties.

From intelligence gleaned from the prisoners I discovered that our approach had been known in Richmond and to the enemy at least thirty-six hours previous. They had lain in ambush waiting our approach for nearly thirty hours previous. Lieutenant Hume, the commander of the scouts, had received his information in letter direct from Williamsburg, and as a general thing they gained intelligence of an expected scout previously. A great deal is due Captain Hill for his prompt and efficient aid, and also to the troops for the zeal shown in a very fatiguing and cold march of 65 miles, which they performed in nineteen hours.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDGAR A. HAMILTON,
*Major Mounted Rifles.*

Col. B. F. ONDERDONK,
*Commanding U. S. Forces.*

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CAMP MOUNTED RIFLES,
*Williamsburg, Va., January 24, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with your instructions received on the evening of the 22d instant, I left camp with 50 mounted men under command of Captain Hill, 40 dismounted men with Captain Harmon, and Captain Barnard's company of 38

men joined me at the camp of the One hundred and thirty-ninth New York Infantry. We moved in direction of Twelve-Mile Ordinary, dismounted men taking the advance, marching through the fields, preventing any knowledge of a dismounted party being outside. The cavalry took the advance beyond Six-Mile Ordinary. The infantry was secreted in the woods this side the Twelve-Mile Ordinary, with instructions to remain until the ensuing evening, guarding the rear, York River, and Diascond roads, and to capture all scouts and parties coming through, and reporting to me the next night at Hickory Neck Church. I made a detour to the left around the Burnt Ordinary, coming in the woods beyond in the rear, and secreting the dismounted men near the church.

Captain Hill advanced directly to Barhamsville, there parted with the 2 men he escorted out; thence scouting in direction of York River, took 2 prisoners with 2 horses, 2 mules, and 1 rifle. On his return he was fired into by an ambuscaded party. He returned the fire, but the woods and night prevented him from distinguishing their whereabouts. Sergeant Eddy was mortally wounded (since dead), Corporal Newby slightly wounded (both of the battery detail). A second volley was poured into him, when near the Twelve-Mile Ordinary; however, without any damage. The cavalry then returned to camp. On hearing the first firing the detachment of dismounted men were placed in position to receive the enemy as they approached the road through the woods, but instead the enemy moved across the woods, coming out upon the Diascond road.

At daylight they were heard approaching from the Ordinary. They came nearly to the woods; then diverged to the right across an open field, apparently making for the houses on the right. A small party secreted in the road, finding that they were moving away, immediately fired, when we made a charge. The soreness from walking so far, proximity to a ravine, and the woods prevented us from capturing them, although to escape they threw away their arms. One of them was wounded. We returned to the bivouac; immediately secreted ourselves in another part of the woods beyond. In about an hour a small party of the enemy returned, fired three or four volleys through the old bivouac, and retired. They were constantly scouting around all day, hunting up our pickets. Once or twice we fired at them. Our ignorance of the roads and by-paths prevented our getting near them. Toward evening we returned to the church, the pickets here capturing 1 of their scouts, who was attempting to crawl in upon us. The infantry met us at dusk. I placed them in the woods, and with Captain Harmon's troop scouted through the adjoining woods, searching houses, &c. It being known that we were there, the men being foot-sore, I concluded to return to camp, which we approached by the York River road. One man dressed in military clothes was taken from a house where they were signaling from. He claims not to be a soldier.

The marching was very difficult, and a great deal of praise should be awarded to a body of foot-sore men, who marched so well and acted so bravely. Captain Barnard's company of infantry did very efficient service in guarding the roads to the rear.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDGAR A. HAMILTON,
*Major First New York Mounted Rifles.*

Col. B. F. ONDERDONK,
*First New York Mounted Rifles.*

## JANUARY 20-29, 1864.—Operations in the District of North Carolina.*

*Report of Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding district.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., January 29, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to state, for the information of the commanding general Department of Virginia and North Carolina, that since the departure of General Peck the movements of interest that have taken place in this district are the following:

On the 26th instant I directed a small force of picked cavalry with one howitzer to report to Colonel Jourdan, commanding the Subdistrict of Beaufort, for the purpose of co-operating with an infantry force to be selected by him, the whole to be commanded by the colonel in person, in an expedition for the purpose of capturing a force of rebel cavalry in Jones and Onslow Counties. Some vessels were reported as being in New River, loading with turpentine, and an attempt was to be made to get them out and to secure or to destroy them.

Colonel Jourdan has just reported by telegraph from Newport, stating that he had captured a lieutenant and 23 men of the Seventh Confederate Cavalry, with horses, arms, and equipments complete. If possible, I shall direct the prisoners to be forwarded to Fortress Monroe by the Spaulding, now at Morehead City.

General Wessells, commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle, reports on January 23, 1864, that having heard that a considerable quantity of stores had been collected at Harrellsville, Hertford County, he directed Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, One hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers, with a detachment of infantry, to proceed to that point, and capture and destroy the property. The expedition left Plymouth on the evening of the 20th instant, and reached the point indicated at 4 o'clock on the following morning without interruption. While securing the property a simultaneous and spirited attack upon the town from different points was made, but the enemy was repulsed at all points. General Wessells reports the results of the expedition to have been the destruction of 150,000 or 200,000 pounds of pork, 270 bushels of salt, 10,000 pounds of tobacco, 32 barrels of beef, and other stores; also the capture of some prisoners, horses, mules, &c.

Also on the 27th instant reports that, in order to put a stop to disorders and outrages in Tyrrell County, near Lake Phelps, he directed Captain Cady, Twenty-fourth New York Battery, to proceed to that place with a detachment of mounted men, with instructions to arrest the criminals, if possible, and to bring off from the Pettigrew and Collins plantations such property as would be of value to the Government. The result of the expedition was the arrest of 5 men who have been employed in a series of robberies; also one of the murderers of the men Tom and York, and two Confederate soldiers, together with the capture of about 200 sheep and other property. Full reports will be transmitted as soon as possible.

General Wessells, in a letter of the 27th instant, informs me that

* Including expeditions to Harrellsville, into Bertie County, into Onslow County, and up the Roanoke River.

Richmond papers of the 22d instant state that Hoke's brigade is ordered to North Carolina, charged with the duty of arresting deserters. No particular locality is specified. The news from Kinston is that quite a large force is there, anticipating, I presume, an attack from us. This we have known for some time.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ADDENDA.*

*Abstract from Record of Events on district return for January, 1864.*

*January* 20.—An expedition started from Plymouth, N. C., under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, One hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers, for the purpose of proceeding to Harrellsville to capture or destroy Confederate property which had been concentrated there. The expedition was highly successful; a large amount of property was brought away, and for want of transportation many wagons, large quantities of salt and sugar, and 150,000 pounds of pork were destroyed; our loss, 1 killed; enemy's, 1 killed and 2 wounded.

*January* 26.—Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell was dispatched from Plymouth to destroy and capture Confederate property, with a small force, into Hertford County; 200,000 pounds of pork were destroyed, also a large amount of Confederate property; tobacco, cotton, horses, mules, and wagons were brought away.

*January* 27.—Colonel Jourdan started from Newport Barracks with detachments of the Ninth Vermont, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers, Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry, and Mix's Cavalry, and proceeded to Onslow County, N. C.; captured the pickets stationed in that county, 27 men with 24 horses and cavalry equipments.

*January* 29.—A detachment of infantry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Tolles, Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers, accompanied by a detachment of seamen, under Lieutenant-Commander Flusser, U. S. Navy, proceeded up the Roanoke River to Windsor, to destroy Confederate supplies there concentrated. A rebel cantonment near the place was destroyed; horses, mules, wagons, clothing, and ammunition were captured. Several prominent citizens were brought away to be held as hostages for certain loyal persons incarcerated in Richmond; 2 prisoners were captured.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 21. } HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 24, 1864.

The commanding general has often recognized the ability with which Brigadier-General Wessells has administered the Sub-district of the Albemarle, and acknowledged the good conduct of his officers and men.

The late expedition to Windsor was followed by another in the same quarter only a few weeks since, consisting of detachments of

the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Connecticut Volunteers, under Major Osborne, of the Eighty-fifth New York and One hundred and first and One hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Clarke, all under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell. The success of this enterprise is shown in the list of property taken or destroyed—11 bales of cotton, 20 horses, 10 mules, 200,000 pounds of pork, 80 barrels of lard, 25 casks of salt, 25 barrels of meal, 50 bushels of corn, and many oxen, wagons, carts, &c. This example of Colonel Maxwell will be appreciated and emulated by the whole command.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**JANUARY 23–25, 1864.—Scout from Charlestown, W. Va., to Woodstock, Va.**

*Report of Maj. Timothy Quinn, First New York Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NEW YORK CAVALRY,
*Charlestown, W. Va., January 25, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding that, pursuant to orders, I took command of a scout on Saturday morning last.

Moved from this place at 8 a. m.; proceeded to Berryville, where I divided my command, sending a party through Millwood and White Post to Newtown, the main body taking the pike to Winchester, thence to the latter place, where both parties united and bivouacked for the night.

The next morning (Sunday) at 5 a. m., resumed the journey, passing through Middletown and Strasburg; halted about 4 miles beyond the latter place, and sent Captain Bailey with a detachment of the First New York Cavalry to Woodstock. On this side of Woodstock the enemy's pickets were posted. The captain's party captured 1 of them, wounded 1 badly through the knee, and after driving the balance through the town returned to the main body. I then moved back with my whole command to Winchester, where I remained last night. At Strasburg, on my way back, I sent four companies through Cedar Creek road, they uniting with the main body at Winchester. I captured in all 9 prisoners; 3 of those pretend to have been paroled by General Butler. As I was not certain as to what course would be proper for me to pursue in their case, I brought them along for the action of the general commanding.

The whereabouts of the enemy in the valley is as follows: General Early left Strasburg two weeks ago last Saturday, and is now at Harrisonburg. Rosser's brigade of cavalry, consisting of the Seventh, Eleventh, and Twelfth Virginia and White's battalion, is between New Market and Timberville. Imboden's command is at Cross Keys.

No casualty to report in my command.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

TIMOTHY QUINN,
*Major First New York Cavalry, Commanding Scout.*

Capt. W. M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**JANUARY 24–25, 1864.—Expedition up the James River, Va.**

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham, U. S. Army, commanding Naval Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS NAVAL BRIGADE,
*Norfolk, Va., January 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following as the result of an expedition organized under my command, consisting of the gun-boats General Jesup, with two launches, each mounting a 12-pounder Dahlgren howitzer; Smith Briggs, with three launches; Flora Temple, and the transport George Washington.

The troops which accompanied the expedition, besides the crews of the vessels above named, were the crew of the gun-boat Samuel L. Brewster, Ensign Harris commanding; a detachment of 15 men of the harbor police of Norfolk, and 20 cavalrymen under command of Captain Lee, of the harbor police; 80 men from the crew of the steamer Foster, Captain McLaughlin commanding, and a detachment of 150 men and 6 officers of the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers under the command of Captain Brown.

The expedition left Norfolk at 5 p. m. on the 24th instant, sailed to Newport News, arriving about 7 p. m., when the detachment of the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers was embarked on board the steamer George Washington. The expedition again sailed about 9 p. m. for Brandon, about 7 miles from Fort Powhatan, arriving at that place about 5 a. m. on the 25th instant.

The advance guard under Captain Lee, of the harbor police, was immediately landed, followed by the two launches armed with howitzers. No opposition was made to their landing, and in the course of an hour the whole force was disembarked. The wharf on the plantation was found to be completely destroyed, and it being impossible to land the cavalry that detachment was not used. Captain Lee, pursuant to instructions, advanced a line of skirmishers, surrounding the house of Dr. Ritchie, upon whose plantation the expedition landed. The doctor and overseers were taken and brought back as prisoners, it being ascertained that the doctor was a large contractor with the Confederate Government, from papers found upon his premises.

The information being positive that there was a signal station at Mount Pleasant, on the James River, Captain Lee's detachment, having been increased by the crew of the gun-boat Brewster, 31 men, was ordered to advance to that place, which was about 3 miles from the landing. Coming upon the station, they found the non-commissioned officers in command and men asleep. Six of the party were captured, 1 effected his escape. All the signal apparatus, consisting of one large and one small telescope with their stands, one signal flag, and three night signals, with the arms and accouterments of the men, were taken.

Another detachment was sent out on the left of the landing of the expedition, which, though it did not encounter any enemy, rendered valuable service by destroying immense quantities of wheat, corn, and hay, besides sending in a number of horses and mules. Upon the plantation of Dr. Ritchie were found about 5,000 bushels of corn, large quantities of hay and grain, and 24,000 pounds pork, all of which was destroyed.

The negroes everywhere evinced a disposition to give information, and large numbers flocked to the beach, and many of them, to the number of 80, returned with the expedition.

There were collected about 60 horses and mules, but owing to the fact that the landing was destroyed and the wind from off shore was quite high, it was almost impossible to embark them. Although officers and men labored for several hours, they were only able to place on board, by building a temporary platform, about 10.

During the operations of the force on land, which I personally superintended, the gun-boats General Jesup and Smith Briggs were ordered to proceed up the river to a position which commanded an extensive view in the direction of Richmond, both to command the neck of land where the land forces were operating and to watch for the approach of the iron-clad Richmond, which was reported to be on the James River.

While executing this duty, the gun-boat General Jesup having the advance, two vessels made their appearance and were brought to and captured by that vessel. One of these was the sloop Birdloe, of Warwick, apparently used for the purpose of carrying wood, and was without a cargo, having 2 men on board as crew. The other was the schooner Thomas F. Dawson, of Richmond, loaded with 242 boxes of tobacco, William Henley captain, with 3 seamen and 5 foreign Jews, blockade-runners, as passengers. Upon searching the vessel a large box of jewelry was discovered, and upon the persons of the men papers proving them to be blockade-runners, also the following amount of money: $755 in gold, $656 in Treasury notes, $7,000 in bonds on the States of Florida, Maryland, and North Carolina, $347 in Confederate money, $3 in silver, $1,796.50 in Southern bank-notes, $10 in Northern bank-notes; in all, $10,567.50. Not a shot was fired at the expedition, either going or coming, and it is believed that its landing, owing to the capture of the signal party referred to, was not perceived until several hours after it was effected. Captain Lee, of the harbor police, is deserving of the most creditable mention for the judgment he displayed in making his dispositions and the celerity with which his movements were executed. Lieutenant Harris, of the General Jesup, also displayed much zeal and is entitled not only to recommendations but promotion for his services. The detachment from the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, under Captains Brown and Long and Lieutenants Shepard, Crane, Dutton, McKinney, and Edwards, rendered good service. In the main all the detachments behaved well, although I regret to say that some of the men gave way to intemperance, a large quantity of liquor having been found on the premises of Dr. Ritchie.

Lieutenant Bullard, one of my aides, was with Captain Lee when the signal party was surprised, and he and Lieutenant Benson, likewise of my staff, were indefatigable in the performance of the arduous duties which devolved upon them.

At 10.40 p. m. the expedition arrived at Fortress Monroe.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Naval Brigade.*

Major-General BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

HEADQUARTERS NAVAL BRIGADE,
*Norfolk, Va., January 26, 1864.*

GENERAL: Owing to the haste with which my report of the expedition of the 25th instant was made, and the fact that the contrabands were counted on board the vessels at night, the return was incorrect. Instead of 99, the list of men, women, and children amounts to 137. The following property was likewise captured: Four horses, 3 mules, 2 telescopes, 2 pieces of duck, 5 carbines, 5 carbine cartridge-boxes and belts, 2 old muskets, and 1 old cavalry pistol.

Captain McLaughlin reports this morning that 1 of the privates of his company, Thirteenth New York Artillery, is missing. The loss of this man was no doubt caused by his being intoxicated, as every precaution was taken to prevent any of the expedition being left.

The sloop and schooner mentioned in my official report as having been captured are now lying at anchor off this place, with prize crews on board, and await your orders as to what disposition shall be made of them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

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**JANUARY 27, 1864.—Affair near Thoroughfare Mountain, Va.**

*Report of Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, C. S. Army.*

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January 29, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to announce that Capt. M. W. Strother, commanding a company of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry, on detached service in the vicinity of Thoroughfare Mountain, encountered on the 27th instant a scouting party of the enemy's cavalry, 14 in number, and captured the entire party except 2, who made their escape.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
*Chief of Staff.*

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**JANUARY 27-FEBRUARY 7, 1864.—Operations in Hampshire and Hardy Counties, W. Va.**

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Jan. 30, 1864.—Capture of wagon train at Medley.
Feb. 2, 1864.—Skirmish at Patterson's Creek.
4, 1864.—Skirmish at Moorefield.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding Department of West Virginia.
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Charles Fitz Simmons, Third New York Cavalry, commanding cavalry, First Division.

No. 3.—Col. James A. Mulligan, Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, commanding Second Division.
No. 4.—Col. Jacob M. Campbell, Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade.
No. 5.—Col. Joseph Thoburn, First West Virginia Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 6.—Col. Joseph Snider, Fourth West Virginia Cavalry.
No. 7.—Lieut. Col. Francis W. Thompson, Sixth West Virginia Cavalry.
No. 8.—General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding Army of Northern Virginia.
No. 9.—Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early, C. S. Army, commanding Valley District.
No. 10.—Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Rosser, C. S. Army, commanding expedition.

## No. 1.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding Department of West Virginia.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 2, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 12 midnight.)

At 1 p. m. to-day about 500 of Rosser's brigade made an attack on the forces guarding the bridges across Patterson's Creek and North Branch of Potomac. Several of our men were wounded, 1 killed, balance either captured or dispersed. Both bridges were fired. Reenforcements were promptly sent forward, and arrived in time to drive the enemy away and save the Patterson's Creek bridge. About 1 mile of the telegraph line destroyed. It will be repaired to-morrow, and in three days the bridges will be repaired and the road in working order. Mulligan still driving the enemy back from New Creek. If Sullivan's cavalry arrives at Romney to-night I hope to cut Rosser off.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 5, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 10.45 p. m.)

Colonel Mulligan reports that he drove Early's forces through Moorefield up the South Fork till darkness put a stop to the pursuit. I have yet no particulars of the affair. Early is making a rapid retreat into the Shenandoah Valley.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 8, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations in this department from the 27th of January, 1864, until the 7th of February, during which time our troops were engaged in

repelling the attempts of the enemy's forces, under General Early, upon the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and upon the posts at Petersburg and New Creek, W. Va.

On the 27th of January a train of eighty wagons, loaded with commissary stores, was dispatched from New Creek to supply the garrison at Petersburg, Hardy County, under the command of Colonel Thoburn.

On the 28th, citizen refugees from the vicinity of Petersburg and Moorefield brought information that the rebel forces were approaching, and in consequence of these rumors the supply train was stopped at Burlington and turned back, and a precautionary message sent to Colonel Thoburn, ordering him to fall back from Petersburg upon ascertaining that the enemy menaced him in force.

On the same day I went personally to New Creek, and there found that the statements made by the refugees were vague and unsatisfactory, and being assured that the scouting parties sent up the Shenandoah Valley, and those sent out by Colonel Thoburn from Petersburg, had returned without discovering any signs of the enemy. I concluded that the citizens had been alarmed by some prowling bands of guerrillas, and ordered the supply train again to take the road with a strong guard of cavalry and infantry, under the command of Col. Joseph Snider, Fourth Virginia Cavalry, whose report, marked A,* is herewith submitted. At the same time I telegraphed General Sullivan, at Harper's Ferry, and Colonel Oley, commanding Averell's division, at Martinsburg, to keep their mounted troops ready for the saddle.

On the 29th, Colonel Snider started with the train, and en route received a message from Lieutenant-Colonel Quirk asking him to hasten his movements, and informing him that the Twenty-third Regiment Illinois Volunteers, of Colonel Thoburn's command, would meet him at the Moorefield Junction. On reaching Medley, 2½ miles from the junction, he met Lieutenant-Colonel Quirk with the Twenty-third Illinois, retiring before the enemy. Colonel Snider, being the ranking officer, here assumed command, and with the combined forces took position to resist the enemy's attack, which was persistently made and sustained by a battery of artillery.

After an action of one hour and twenty minutes Colonel Snider was driven back, retiring from the field in good order and with considerable loss. Meanwhile the train-masters and teamsters, becoming alarmed, had abandoned their wagons, and cutting the harness of the draft animals, had used them to effect their escape, thus leaving the train immovable, which, in consequence, fell into the hands of the enemy, who fired about forty wagons and carried off the remainder. Immediately upon hearing of the loss of this train I telegraphed General Sullivan to move the mounted force from Charlestown, and to Colonel Oley to move forward two mounted regiments of Averell's division by way of Winchester and Wardensville to Moorefield, hoping thus to cut off the enemy and prevent his escaping with his spoils.

At daylight on the 30th, Colonel Thoburn's scouts discovered the enemy in the vicinity of Moorefield, and by further information obtained from prisoners and deserters he ascertained that his position was to be attacked on the following morning by a large force under General Early. As he had but one day's provisions on hand, and

*See p. 40.

perceiving that his line of communication was held by the enemy, and that his force was weakened by the absence of the Twenty-third Illinois Regiment, he determined to evacuate Petersburg and fall back on New Creek, according to precautionary orders already received. He accordingly withdrew his forces at midnight, and carrying with him all stores and Government property he retired by way of Greenland Gap, and arrived at New Creek safe and in good condition on the 1st of February.

At daylight on the 31st, the enemy opened fire on the abandoned works at Petersburg, and shelled them for some time before he discovered that they were unoccupied. Perceiving at length that the garrison had escaped, he hastened by the direct route to Greenland Gap, hoping to cut off Colonel Thoburn's retreat, but he arrived too late.

The enemy still continued to press upon Colonel Mulligan's outposts, both in the New Creek and Patterson's Creek Valleys, showing a considerable force of all arms on both points. I began to apprehend that his ultimate designs were to effect the destruction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and that at the same time he might attack the post at New Creek, or even hazard a *coup de main* upon Cumberland with a view to plunder. I therefore held Mulligan's division, strengthened by Thoburn, ready for defensive or offensive operations, as circumstances might dictate, and sent an order after the mounted column at Wardensville to move as speedily as possible upon Romney, at which point this force would have an opportunity to strike the enemy in flank and rear, and would be able to communicate more directly with Colonel Mulligan. In the mean time two regiments of infantry, Twelfth [West] Virginia and Thirty-fourth Massachusetts, arrived by rail from Harper's Ferry, and with one light battery were held to secure Cumberland against any sudden movements.

On the morning of February 2, hearing from Colonel Mulligan that the enemy were retiring, I ordered him to follow at once, and notified him that four regiments of our mounted troops would arrive at Romney that night to co-operate with him. Suddenly, about noon on the same day (2d), the enemy, about 500 strong, under Rosser, made his appearance at Patterson's Creek Station, capturing a portion of the company of infantry guarding the road, killing and wounding several, and setting fire to Patterson's Creek bridge and also to North Branch bridge, 2 miles from the former and 6 miles from Cumberland.

I immediately took command of the forces at this place, and marched toward the menaced point, but presently ascertained that the enemy was hastily retiring by the way he came, having failed to do any serious damage to the road. Rosser retired by way of Sheets' Mill, where two regiments of infantry were stationed to support him. It being impossible to pursue with the infantry under my immediate command, I now depended on the mounted troops I had set in motion to intercept and punish the enemy's temerity.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons, commanding the mounted column from the valley of the Shenandoah, received the order directing him to move on Romney while at Wardensville, and responded with commendable promptness, arriving at the time expected. Unfortunately he here received information that the enemy was destroying the railroad in the neighborhood of Green Spring. Leaving a detachment to hold Romney, he followed this false scout to Springfield,

while Rosser, secured from view by the Patterson's Creek Mountain, was rapidly escaping through a parallel valley in the opposite direction. Before this error could be rectified the enemy was well on his way to Moorefield, and on the 3d February, communication having been opened with the infantry under Colonel Thoburn, the whole force under command of Colonel Mulligan, started in pursuit, the cavalry, under Colonel Fitz Simmons, taking the old road to Moorefield and the infantry, with the artillery, following the new road west of the South Branch River.

On the morning of the 4th our advanced cavalry came in sight of the enemy in the Moorefield Valley. At this place, according to the report* of Colonel Mulligan, herewith transmitted, the enemy appeared in strong force with infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and maintained a determined front for the evident purpose of securing the safe retreat of baggage trains and droves of cattle, which could be seen defiling by the roads leading southward over the mountains. Pressed by our artillery and advanced skirmishers, he retired through the village of Moorefield, but before our troops, already harassed by loss of sleep and worn down by forced marches, had arrived in sufficient force to justify a general attack, the enemy's trains were beyond our reach and his troops had gained the defile in the mountains, where he could not be attacked except at a great disadvantage, and from whence he could retire from position to position, inflicting serious loss upon an assailant with comparative safety to himself. As there seemed to be no adequate advantage promised that would justify so hazardous an attack, Colonel Mulligan followed the enemy slowly with cavalry and artillery until night.

On the following morning, 5th of February, ascertaining that General Early was still rapidly retiring toward Harrisonburg by the Lost River road and Brock's Gap, Colonel Mulligan ordered the co-operating forces back to their respective stations, and leaving Colonel Thoburn at Burlington, he returned with his own command to New Creek.

The principal object of the enemy in this movement appears to have been the capture of the garrison at Petersburg, and incidentally to collect supplies from the Moorefield Valley. His main object failed entirely, and the small amount of damage resulting [from] his hurried attempt upon the railroad hardly justified the hazard incurred. I do not think his falling upon the supply train was the result of any information received of its movements, but simply accidental.

The fact that citizen refugees brought the first information of the enemy's approach, and that cavalry scouts sent out for the express purpose failed to obtain any information on the subject, is highly discreditable to the officers conducting these reconnaissances. I have heretofore maintained the post at Petersburg for the purpose of protecting the fertile and populous valley of the South Branch from plunder and conscription by the enemy. The line of communication with its depot at New Creek is long and difficult and the position a good deal exposed. Yet such is the value of the district covered by it that I have thought proper to maintain it, and it is now abandoned with great reluctance, and I hope only for a time.

The officers and troops engaged in the operations above reported, as far as I am informed, have behaved with commendable zeal and

* See p. 35.

alacrity, and the enemy's escape from the punishment due his temerity is entirely owing to fortuitous circumstances and the great difficulty of concentrating troops and combining movements from positions so distant and in a country whose topography is so difficult and intricate.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brig. Gen. GEORGE W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Charles Fitz Simmons, Third New York Cavalry, commanding cavalry, First Division.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY FORCES, FIRST DIVISION,
*Charlestown, Va., February 7*, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in pursuance of orders I moved from this place on the 31st of January with the following force, viz: First New York, Major Quinn commanding, 230 men; Twenty-first New York, Major Otis commanding, 375 men; Fifteenth New York, Major Hyde commanding, 400 men; Cole's (Maryland) cavalry, and detachments of the Second Maryland, Sixth Michigan, and First Connecticut Cavalry, Major Cole commanding, 225 men; one section of artillery, Lieutenant Hoffman. I arrived at Winchester at 8 p. m., and bivouacked, 3 miles west, on the Romney road. At 10 p. m. Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson and 500 mounted infantry, with four guns, passed through Winchester toward Strasburg, he having orders to join me at or near Wardensville.

The next day I received orders in the morning from General Sullivan to call in all detachments and move toward Romney direct. I sent Lieutenant Rivers and 12 men of Cole's battalion to intercept Colonel Thompson and inform him I had received intelligence that the enemy was in Romney on the night of the 31st, and moving toward Green Spring Run. Upon the arrival of my wagon train I moved to Romney, stopping at Cacapon Bridge to allow my column to close up and to feed, leaving my train at Blue's Gap, in charge of Major Hyde and all but one squadron of the Fifteenth, which I took with me. Upon my arrival in Romney Lieutenant Wyckoff, of the First New York, who had charge of the advance platoon, dashed forward and captured Lieutenant Allen and 2 men of the Seventh Virginia, from whom I learned that the enemy were in force and moving toward Frankfort, on the west side of South Branch Mountain. I sent Captain Firey, with his company of Cole's battalion, to Springfield to ascertain, if possible, where the enemy was, and in which direction he was moving.

In the mean time I ordered Lieutenant Wyckoff with 10 men of the First New York to reconnoiter the gap, the result of which was to bring on a spirited skirmish. I at once supported Lieutenant Wyckoff with Cole's battalion and Captain Hicks' squadron of the Fifteenth. They drove the enemy through the gap, against great odds of position, killing 1 captain and 1 man and wounding Lieutenant Summers and 2 men, and capturing 2 men, all of the Seventh Vir-

ginia Cavalry. Our casualties, 1 man, Second Maryland, wounded; 2 horses of the First New York killed.

After driving the enemy through the gap, Major Cole asked leave to pursue him to the junction of the Moorefield and New Creek roads. This I refused, as at that moment Captain Firey and Lieutenant Rivers returned, both bringing information that the enemy was in strong force on the west side of the mountain, and numbering not less than 3,000 men of all arms; also, that the advance under Rosser had not reached above Frankfort. I waited until Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson and my wagon train arrived, and left Romney for Springfield at 4 a. m., hoping to head off the enemy and to protect the bridge at Green Spring Run.

Upon arriving at Springfield, I sent a party to Frankfort and another to Green Spring Run. Upon their return I found Rosser had retreated on one side of the mountain while I passed up on the other. I returned to Romney and halted my command to rest and feed, while I rode through the gap to communicate with the force from New Creek. I overtook there, 16 miles from Moorefield, Colonel Thompson's command and the portion of the Fifteenth I left at Blue's Gap, all having joined Colonel Mulligan. Colonel Thompson informed me that orders had been sent me to move to Moorefield, that I might send my artillery to Burlington, as Colonel Mulligan had then eight or nine guns. I returned to Romney and marched with my command at 1 a. m. for Moorefield by the old road, sending Captain Hicks' squadron of the Fifteenth by the new road, to notify Colonel Mulligan of my whereabouts.

I arrived in sight of Moorefield at dawn of the 4th instant. Sent a party to communicate with Colonel Mulligan, whose command just came in sight on the new road, 5 miles from the town. I at once pushed forward; Major Quinn, being in the advance, dashed after the enemy's pickets in a splendid manner, driving them back precipitately on the main body. At this point I received orders from Colonel Mulligan that he depended upon my command to gain the earliest intelligence of the enemy, his numbers, position, and intentions. In about fifteen minutes I was able to inform him the enemy occupied Moorefield, numbering 1,000 cavalry and about 500 infantry. His intentions were evidently to cover the retreat of his train through the mountain pass or gap 3 miles in rear of the town.

I was then ordered to watch my left flank, as it was found the enemy meditated an attack in that direction. I had already sent two companies toward the Wardensville road for that purpose, but they were driven back by a gun stationed at the first ford. I sent to the colonel commanding asking that the gun at the ford be sent across to me. This he did not deem proper to do, but informed me he would send one to Inskip's Ford, which he did, but with no better results than the first, the shells all bursting either in rear of Major Quinn's line or among his skirmishers. Major Quinn kept continually informing us that the enemy was falling back, and that unless soon attacked he would be in the defile and beyond our reach. I attempted to join him at all hazards, and was going up at a gallop, when I received peremptory orders from Colonel Mulligan I must move no farther; that the enemy's falling back was for the purpose of entrapping us, as he had information that a large force of infantry and twelve guns were on our left flank. He ordered me to send 200 men to scour the hills, and to move up only as fast as they were able to move through the hills on our left.

Major Quinn in the mean time pushed through the town, and the enemy took a position in column of squadrons, just in advance of the defile, well covered with skirmishers in front and on the flanks. A company of mounted infantry crossed at Inskip's Ford and relieved Major Quinn's skirmishers. The enemy at this point commenced maneuvering as if to charge. I made a disposition of the command to receive them, but the movement only proved to be a feint to draw in their parties on the right and left.

I was then ordered by Colonel Mulligan to carry out my original intention of precipitating my command upon the enemy, and that a gun would report to me in a few minutes. I moved my column toward the enemy as fast as the nature of the ground would admit, but no gun reporting, the enemy entered the pass before I could reach him, leaving only a small party of skirmishers, which we drove back at a trot. Shortly after the gun came up, and also Colonel Mulligan. We together pursued the enemy up, shelling him wherever we could use artillery, but night coming on and the position being one of evident advantage to the enemy, Colonel Mulligan ordered me to withdraw to the other side of the town and river, and on the morning of the 5th ordered me to report to my division commander without delay, which I did, reaching Halltown at 3 p. m. of the 7th instant.

I am, captain, your obedient servant,

C. FITZ SIMMONS,
*Lieut. Col., Commanding Cavalry Forces, First Division.*

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Col. James A. Mulligan, Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, commanding Second Division.*

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February —*, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the evening of the 3d instant I took command of the column then in pursuit of General Rosser on the Moorefield and Hardy pike, Colonel Thoburn commanding. On my arrival, reported the infantry, Fourteenth Virginia, Third and Fourth Pennsylvania Reserves, as exhausted, footsore, and unable to proceed. I ordered them into camp near Purgitsville, and with Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, commanding 500 of General Averell's cavalry, Captain Greenfield's Independent Company of Cavalry, Carlin's battery, and a section of Ewing's battery, under Lieutenant Morton, moved to Reynolds' Gap, where we halted to await the arrival of General Sullivan's cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons. The colonel not arriving, and unable to ascertain his location, at 4 o'clock in the morning I ordered Carlin's battery, with a guard of 200 cavalry, back to the infantry at Purgitsville, it being hazardous to risk so much artillery with so light a force.

With the remaining force of 300 and the section of Ewing's battery we moved forward to feel the enemy, whom we discovered at 8 a. m. at Parsons' Ford, on the South Branch. At the same time Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons, advancing on the Romney road, reported to

me with 600 of General Sullivan's cavalry. Lieutenant Morton immediately opened on the enemy from the ford. I sent orders to Colonel Thoburn to come forward with the infantry, but he was unable to arrive in time to participate in the affair. Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson was directed to take a part of his force, with one piece of artillery, move into a good position near the Inskip's Ford on the enemy's flank, hold it, and harass the enemy, which movement he executed with rapidity and success. At the same time Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons steadily pressed the enemy in front until his advance, under Major Quinn, drove them through and out of Moorefield at 11 o'clock.

The enemy made another stand at Randolph's, on the South Fork, but gave way as the artillery was brought up, and fell slowly back up the fork, when Early's infantry were reported by Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons deploying into position.

Captain Myers, of the Ringgold Cavalry, being familiar with the South Fork pass, was ordered to the front with his company and Colonel Fitz Simmons ordered to press closely after him, using his artillery, and rout the enemy. Captain Myers, after an endeavor to break through their lines, returned and reported the enemy strongly lodged in the rocks. Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons reported the majority of his cavalry too exhausted for further efficient pursuit. At this point, about 3 p. m., the enemy's train was discovered on the South Branch Mountains. The artillery opened on it without effect, the distance being too great. Colonel Fitz Simmons and the artillery were then stationed at the mouth of the South Fork defile, and Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, with the whole available force of both commands, moved up the fork in pursuit. Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson followed the enemy, not returning until late in the night, having pursued him to the neighborhood of Lost River road.

The cavalry, having made forced marches from Harper's Ferry and Martinsburg, were greatly worn down. The same is true of Lieutenant Morton's artillery, some of whose horses dropped dead from exhaustion in the field.

Thanks are due Lieutenant-Colonels Thompson and Fitz Simmons for having overtaken and pursued the enemy until night and the mountains saved him. I am also much indebted to my staff, Captains Moriarty and Pease, Lieutenants Nugent and McKenzie, for their skill and efficiency.

This report has been delayed waiting for the reports of the officers commanding the cavalry, which reports have not yet been received.

With respect, faithfully,

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 4.

*Report of Col. Jacob M. Campbell, Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*Cumberland, Md., February* 24, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to your letter of the 23d instant, directing me to report "what damage was done to the Baltimore and

Ohio Railroad, or any part thereof; where the troops of your (my) brigade were stationed; what bridges on said road were destroyed or injured; whether such bridges were protected by block-houses or otherwise, and through whose fault, if any, the injury occurred; also what, if any, losses of men, animals, transportation, ordnance, quartermaster's and commissary stores, in the last two movements of the rebel force in West Virginia, and also, as far as you have the means of knowing, the captures from and losses to the enemy in these operations," I have the honor to report as follows:

At the time of the first rebel raid—January 4, 1864—I was stationed at Springfield, W. Va., with the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Infantry, and Battery E, First Virginia Volunteer Artillery. At 6 p. m. on that day I received orders from Brig. Gen. B. F. Kelley, commanding Department of West Virginia, to move to Cumberland, Md., by way of Patterson's Creek, but which was afterward changed, directing me to move by way of Green Spring at once. This last dispatch was received at 8 p. m. My orders were to reach Cumberland at daylight. I immediately began the movement. My supply train had that evening arrived from Green Spring with a load of supplies. This materially reduced my means of transportation, and I had no time to send out to press teams, if, indeed, I could have found any in the neighborhood. Yet I took off all my stores except a few sacks of grain and some other stores of but little value, which were concealed in the night and afterward recovered by a scouting party sent out for that purpose. I arrived at Cumberland about daylight, January 5, having lost neither men, animals, or stores.

At the time of the second raid—February 2, 1864—I was stationed at Cumberland, Md. On that day Company F, Capt. John W. Hibler, Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, with 57 men of my brigade, was stationed at Patterson's Creek bridge, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and a detachment of the company at the North Branch bridge as pickets. I had warned Captain Hibler to be on the alert and to keep scouts well out, but it seems that General Rosser (rebel), with from 400 to 500 cavalry, succeeded in penetrating to Patterson's Creek bridge on the 2d of February. His advance guard were dressed in Federal uniforms, and succeeded in getting up to Captain Hibler's by representing themselves as part of the Ringgold Cavalry (Union), and thus successively captured all the pickets on the Patterson's Creek road, and then rapidly dashed into camp while the men were at dinner. A slight skirmish ensued, in which we had 1 man killed, 1 mortally and 3 slightly wounded. The rebels captured 1 captain and 36 men, with all the camp and garrison equipage of the company, 40 Enfield rifles, and 4,000 rounds of rifle cartridges. They then set fire to the Patterson's Creek bridge, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and thence went to the North Branch bridge, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and fired it, the guard at the latter bridge making their escape.

I may here say that as there was known to be a large Union force some 18 miles south and west of Patterson's Creek, and part of the Ringgold Cavalry there, taken in connection with the fact that the rebels wore our uniform and claimed to be Union cavalry, may, in a measure, account for the pickets being deceived.

Neither the Patterson's Creek bridge nor the North Branch bridge were protected by block-houses, and the only protection for them was the company of infantry which the rebels captured.

As soon as the news of the rebel force being at Patterson's Creek

was received at this place, one company of the Ringgold Cavalry, Captain Myers, was dispatched to that point, and arrived at the North Branch bridge in time to put out the fire. Neither of the bridges—mere trestle-works—were totally destroyed. Captain Myers, immediately after putting out the fire, pushed on after the enemy. This is all the loss any portion of my brigade sustained, and the partial destruction of the two above-mentioned bridges being all the injury done to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. A scouting party from this place captured during the last raid 1 rebel captain. This is all the loss I know of the rebels sustaining.

As to whose fault it was that the injury occurred, whether the fault was with the large force that lay some 18 miles in front, near the junction of the Burlington and Patterson's Creek roads, or with the mere detachments of a small company of infantry at the two bridges, I am not prepared to say.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. CAMPBELL,
*Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.*

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 5.

*Report of Col. Joseph Thoburn, First West Virginia Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
*New Creek, W. Va., February* 14, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In reply to your communication of the 13th, asking for a detailed report of my operations from the 30th ultimo to the 6th instant, I beg leave to report as follows:

At daylight on the morning of the 30th ultimo Captain Greenfield, with a squad of 20 cavalry, ran into a camp of rebel cavalry, 1 or 2 miles south of Moorefield, and returned, bringing with him a prisoner, from whom we learned that Rosser's brigade with some other detachments was there. I at once notified the commanding officer of the train, then on its way from New Creek to Petersburg, of the threatened danger; also the commanding officer of the Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, then engaged in blockading the road leading from Moorefield to Patterson's Creek Valley.

At 12 m. of the same day information was received from a deserter that Early's command was moving from the valley in the direction of Moorefield, the intention evidently being either an attack on Petersburg or the railroad. Owing to the supplies at the former place being nearly exhausted (only having rations to last until the evening of the 31st), and the uncertainty of the arrival of the train, I determined to evacuate the place, and sent a courier to the wagon train directing it to return to New Creek. But before the arrival of the courier the train was captured, and information was brought back that Rosser's brigade with artillery occupied the road at the Moorefield and Alleghany Junction.

A little after dark a scouting party brought in a prisoner taken from Early, as he was going into camp on the Moorefield road, 6 or

7 miles from Petersburg, from whom we learned that we would be attacked the following morning at daylight.

At midnight, every preparation being completed, the command moved off quietly, taking with us, with some trifling exceptions, all our stores and Government property. The Patterson's Creek road being occupied by the enemy, I was compelled to take an unfrequented and difficult mountain road, through Reel's Gap to the base of the Alleghany Mountains, and from thence to Greenland Gap, at which place the head of the column arrived at 10.15 a. m., January 31. The train was delayed eight hours crossing a spur of the mountain, where I was compelled to abandon several caissons, chests, and other property in order to enable the train to cross the mountain. Since our arrival here nearly all of the stores abandoned at that place have been brought in.

At 5 p. m. we went into camp 18 miles from New Creek. Shortly afterward information was brought in that the enemy was pursuing and was in force within a few miles of us. Having received orders from division headquarters to proceed to New Creek as rapidly as possible, I gave orders to move at 1 a. m., February 1, and arrived at this post at 11.30 a. m. The column arrived in good condition, without casualty or disaster on the way, with the exception of a few stragglers that were picked up by the enemy while in a state of intoxication. Among these I am sorry to say were Capt. John Rourke, Illinois Light Artillery, and Capt. William S. Robb, First West Virginia Volunteer Infantry.

On my arrival at this place the Third and Fourth Pennsylvania Reserves, Fourth West Virginia Cavalry, and the Sixth West Virginia Battery were temporarily assigned to my brigade, and in accordance with orders from division headquarters my command, with the exception of the Ringgold Battalion and Carlin's battery, was moved upon the mountain east of this place called Piano Fort. At 12 p. m. Captain Greenfield, with 100 of the Ringgold Battalion and four companies of infantry, moved out on a reconnaissance to Ridgeville, where a body of rebel cavalry was supposed to be.

At daylight, February 2, information was received that the enemy had evacuated that place the evening before at 7 o'clock. Captain Greenfield moved forward to Burlington, and sent back information that Rosser's command had left that place the evening before, going down Patterson's Creek.

In accordance with orders, I sent to Burlington the Third Pennsylvania Reserves and Lieutenant Kelley's two howitzers, all under command of Major Briner, Third Pennsylvania Reserves. At 4 p. m. I received orders to move to the same place with the First and Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry Regiments, Fourth Pennsylvania Reserves, and Carlin's battery, where I was directed to bivouac and await further orders. On account of delay, caused by bad roads, it was after dark when the battery got down from Piano Fort, and owing to the darkness of the night the command did not reach Burlington until 3 a. m., February 3.

At 5 a. m. a scouting party brought information that Rosser had left Sheets' Mill the evening before, and was supposed to have gone in the direction of Romney. I immediately moved forward the cavalry and one regiment of infantry to Moorefield Junction, where it was discovered that the enemy had passed in the early part of the night. Communication was had with Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, commanding General Averell's cavalry, at Romney, and Lieu-

tenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons, of General Sullivan's command, near Springfield, W. Va. I requested them to move at once in pursuit of the enemy.

In the mean time my cavalry had come up with the rear of the enemy's retreating column, who had camped within 4 miles of the junction. At 1 p. m. Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson's command (600 strong) arrived at the junction. Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons with 1,100 cavalry was reported on the way. I at once moved forward with Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, the Fourteenth West Virginia, Third and Fourth Pennsylvania Reserves, and Carlin's battery being directed to follow. At Purgitsville I was overtaken by Col. James A. Mulligan, commanding division. I then returned to the infantry, and went into camp on William Taylor's farm.

February 4, at 7.30 a. m., I received orders to move forward as rapidly as possible. At Oldfields, the enemy having fallen back from vicinity of Moorefield, I received orders to halt and hold my command in readiness to return to New Creek.

February 5, at 6.30 a. m., the column moved and reached Burlington at 4 p. m. and camped for the night.

February 6, the Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry was directed to remain at Burlington, and with the remainder of the command I moved to this place.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. THOBURN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 6.

*Report of Col. Joseph Snider, Fourth West Virginia Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH WEST VIRGINIA CAVALRY,
*New Creek, W. Va., February 9, 1864.*

SIR: In obedience to your orders I started in command of the escort to supply train for the garrison at Petersburg on Friday, January 29, 1864.

On the next morning I received dispatch from Colonel Thoburn requesting me to hurry up the train, stating also that the Twenty-third Illinois Regiment was at the Moorefield Junction. Later in the day couriers came back with request from Lieutenant-Colonel Quirk to push forward the train. The train was moved forward with all possible speed, and proceeded unmolested until we arrived at Medley, 2½ miles below the Moorefield Junction, when I met Lieutenant-Colonel Quirk, commanding Twenty-third Illinois, falling back before the advance of the enemy. Being the ranking officer present, I assumed command of the forces, and immediately formed line of battle on the right of the road, the Twenty-third Illinois, Lieutenant-Colonel Quirk, occupying the left, a detachment of the Second Maryland the center, four companies of the Fourth West Virginia Cavalry occupying the right. Two companies of the Fourth were placed in position on our right flank; also a detachment of the Ringgold Battalion, Lieutenant Speer, to prevent, if possible, a flank movement by the enemy, which I plainly saw was their object. Two companies of the Fourth were ordered to take position on our left flank, to prevent a similar movement by the enemy; and

the two remaining companies of the Fourth were placed in rear of the center, to be used as the exigencies of the engagement might demand. I had scarcely got my command in position when the enemy opened upon us with two pieces of artillery, their infantry advancing at the same time, which was met by a galling fire from my front, and caused them to fall back. Thrice they attempted the same thing with the same results.

During the engagement in front the enemy was extending their flanks, either of which line—front, right, or left—was longer than my entire command. At this crisis I ordered the train to be turned and started back, but to my great mortification two of the train-masters had fled and all the teamsters with few exceptions.

The position of my command was becoming perilous. I discovered that the train must be abandoned in order to save my command from capture. I then ordered my men to fall back to an elevation, where we reformed line of battle, giving the enemy several volleys, which checked their advance. Having foiled the enemy in their designs as long as it was possible for my little command to do so, having fought against great odds for one hour and twenty minutes, to save my command from capture I was compelled to order a retreat, which I did, my command leaving the field slowly and in line of battle.

My entire loss, killed, wounded, and missing, is as follows: Maj. N. Goff, jr., Fourth West Virginia Cavalry, captured (horse shot, fell on his leg, could not extricate himself); Lieutenant Elliot, slightly wounded. Privates killed, 5; wounded, 34; missing, 35. I am confident the enemy's loss was much greater than ours. From information received since the engagement I am justified in saying that the rebel force consisted of Rosser's command of Early's corps, with five pieces of artillery.

A large proportion of the officers and men behaved admirably. It would be invidious to make distinctions, but I cannot omit to mention the name of Captain Pease, of your staff, who rendered me such valuable assistance during the entire engagement. I especially recommend him for favorable consideration.

My report having been delayed for days waiting for report of the extent of loss in horses, mules, and wagons, and not yet received, I have thought it prudent to send in this report without it.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JO. SNIDER,

*Col. 4th W. Va. Cav., Comdg. Escort to Supply Train.*

Col. JAMES A. MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Second Division.*

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No. 7.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Francis W. Thompson, Sixth West Virginia Cavalry.*

HDQRS. SIXTH REGT. WEST VIRGINIA VOL. CAV.,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., February 27*, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the march of detachments of the Fifth and Sixth West Virginia Cavalry and three guns of Ewing's battery from Martinsburg to Moorefield and return.

On the morning of the 31st day of January I received orders from

Col. John H. Oley, commanding the Fourth Division, Department of West Virginia, to take command of a detachment of 240 men of the Sixth West Virginia Cavalry and 170 of the Fifth West Virginia Cavalry, and proceed to Winchester, there to join forces from Harper's Ferry and receive orders from General Sullivan as to further movements. I arrived at Winchester about 9 p. m., received orders from General Sullivan to march immediately to Cedar Creek, and at daylight to occupy Strasburg, which was done promptly, after driving about 16 rebel pickets from Cedar Creek; then we marched to Wardensville by sundown that day, joining forces from Harper's Ferry at Wardensville, the senior officer taking command, to push the enemy vigorously and recapture the train taken near Burlington.

On arriving at Hoff Gate I received orders to march by the nearest practicable route to Romney, as the enemy were at Green Spring. We marched until 2 a. m.; stopped to feed 7 miles west of Winchester, on the Northwestern road; started at 7 a. m.; arrived at Romney 2 a. m., joining Lieutenant-Colonel Fitz Simmons, in command of troops from Harper's Ferry, comprising about 1,250 men and three pieces of artillery. Colonel Fitz Simmons was sent to the Wire Bridge over the South Branch of the Potomac, 7 miles below Romney, with about 900 men and three pieces of artillery, to hold the bridge and send a heavy advance toward Green Spring to find the course the enemy would take. At this time the rebels were holding Mechanicsburg Gap, 2 miles from Romney, on the Northwestern road. The gap was held by infantry from General Early's command. Learning that Rosser had passed up the South Branch Valley between Romney and New Creek, I started the command on the Northwestern pike to join Colonel Thoburn's command, which I was informed was at the junction of Moorefield and Northwestern pikes, 7 miles from Romney. I arrived there at 2 p. m., joined Colonel Mulligan, who assumed command and marched up the valley above Moorefield, returning to the junction of the pike with the Northwestern road. Received verbal orders from Colonel Mulligan to only report up to the time I joined his command, and after I left it arrived 4½ miles east of Romney, encamped for the night; then marched to within 2 miles of Winchester, encamped for the night; arrived at Martinsburg. No casualties to report.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. W. THOMPSON,

*Lieut. Col., Comdg. Sixth Regiment W. Va. Vol. Cav.*

Capt. WILL RUMSEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 8.

*Report of General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding Army of Northern Virginia.*

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 6, 1864.

On the 30th ultimo General Rosser captured a train of 93 wagons loaded with commissary stores and forage, on way from New Creek to Petersburg, 300 mules, 20 prisoners. The guard of 800 infantry escaped to the mountains. Our loss, 25 killed and wounded. Information of the advance upon Petersburg having been received, the garrison evacuated it during the night. On the 2d Rosser destroyed the bridges over Patterson's Creek and North Branch of Potomac

and canal, and captured 40 prisoners. Two hundred and seventy-eight prisoners, 50 wagons and teams, 1,200 cattle, and 500 sheep have been brought off. General Rosser has shown great energy and skill, and his command deserves great credit.

R. E. LEE.

General S. COOPER.

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 6, 1864.

Please correct my dispatch of to-day. General Early reported only 78 prisoners; there was error in the telegraph.

R. E. LEE.

General S. COOPER.

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No. 9.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early, C. S. Army, commanding Valley District.*

NEW MARKET, *February* 6, 1864.

GENERAL: On January 28, leaving Imboden's and Walker's brigades near Mount Jackson to guard the valley, I moved from this place with Rosser's brigade, Thomas' brigade, all the effective men of Gilmor's and McNeill's Partisan Rangers, and four pieces of McClanahan's battery, toward Moorefield, in Hardy. I arrived at Moorefield with Rosser's brigade and the artillery on the 29th, and early next morning (the 30th) Rosser was sent to intercept a train on its way from New Creek to Petersburg and get between the garrison at the latter place and the railroad. After cutting through a heavy blockade on the mountain between the South Branch and Patterson's Creek, which was defended by a regiment, Rosser succeeded in reaching and capturing the train after a short fight with its guard, which consisted of over 800 infantry and a small body of cavalry, all under Colonel Snider. The guard for the train broke and run to the mountains, and only a few prisoners were captured. Rosser's loss in killed and wounded was about 25 and the enemy's much heavier. Ninety-three loaded wagons were captured, but the teams from forty-two of them were run off by the drivers during the fight, and being considerably smashed, these wagons were burnt. Fifty wagons with their teams were brought off, one having been overturned in the night and broken to pieces, so as to be useless. The wagons were loaded with commissary stores and forage, but as the wagons crossed the mountain from Patterson's Creek to Moorefield in the night a great deal of the loading was thrown out by the drivers, and much of it was plundered before steps could be taken to secure it. After the train was captured Rosser moved toward Petersburg and got possession of the roads from Petersburg down Patterson's Creek and through Greenland Gap, and the same evening Thomas' brigade arrived at Moorefield and was crossed over the South Branch to within 10 miles of Petersburg.

Early next morning both forces moved upon Petersburg, but on arriving there it was found that the enemy had evacuated during the night, taking a mountain road to the head of New Creek through a pass where it was impracticable to follow him, especially as there was a dense fog, rendering it difficult to discern objects at a short distance. The works at Petersburg were found to be very strong, with a ditch around them and very strong abatis. There were

large bomb-proof shelters, and appearances indicated that a good deal of work had been done lately. The works were destroyed as far as practicable, and some commissary stores and forage and about 13,000 cartridges were secured. Thomas' brigade was then marched back to Moorefield, and Rosser was sent down Patterson's Creek to collect cattle and cut the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. He reached the road on the 2d at the mouth of Patterson's Creek and destroyed the bridge over that creek, and partially destroyed the bridge over the North Branch of the Potomac. He also destroyed another bridge over the canal, and a lock of the canal itself.

In the mean time a considerable cavalry force had made its appearance at Romney, and Rosser returned to Moorefield, which place he reached on the 3d with a number of cattle and sheep. McNeill crossed over to the eastern ridge of the Alleghany and brought off over 300 cattle.

After Rosser's return I gave orders for the troops, trains, &c., to start back early next morning, as we had accomplished all we then could, and accordingly everything but the cavalry was in motion very soon, and after Thomas' brigade had gone about 4 miles from Moorefield a considerable force of the enemy's cavalry with some artillery made its appearance below Moorefield, on the road from Romney. I ordered Thomas' brigade to be brought back toward Moorefield and Rosser to retire through Moorefield, and taking a position on the South Fork of the North Branch I awaited the approach of the enemy until after 12 o'clock, when, he showing no disposition to attack, but contenting himself with maneuvering very cautiously, and Rosser's cavalry being too much reduced in numbers to attack the enemy's cavalry, which was in view and largely exceeded his own in numbers, I resumed my march back without molestation from the enemy, crossing over to Lost River that night, and the next day (the 5th) to this valley. A large portion of the cavalry force which appeared at Moorefield went from Martinsburg and Charlestown, a brigade under Colonel Fish having lately been sent to the lower valley. I have been informed that a force of infantry was following the cavalry, but I am not certain of this. I did not think it prudent to leave the trains and cattle to the risk of capture while I was being amused by cavalry at Moorefield, and I therefore moved back, according to my original purpose.

We brought off the 50 captured wagons with their teams, 1,200 cattle, 500 sheep, 78 prisoners (1 major, 3 captains, and 74 enlisted men), and some commissary stores. We got all the cattle we could. Many persons ran off their cattle to Maryland, and a number of those brought off will not answer for beef at present. We could have got as many sheep as we wanted, but they could not be driven.

We found the people of Moorefield and the adjoining valley very true to our cause, and exceedingly kind and hospitable to our men. I think the enemy will hardly occupy Petersburg again; and if he does not, as soon as things get quiet some more cattle can be gotten.

Very respectfully,

J. A. EARLY,
*Major-General.*

General R. E. LEE.

I understand that the operator here made a mistake and telegraphed that we had brought off 278 prisoners, which is just 200 more than we did get. It should have been 78.

J. A. E.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the honorable Secretary of War, to whom the conduct of General Early and General Rosser and their troops is commended.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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No. 10.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Rosser, C. S. Army, commanding expedition.*

HDQRS. ROSSER'S BRIGADE, *February* 9, 1864.

MAJOR: On the morning of the 28th ultimo, in obedience to an order from Maj. Gen. J. A. Early, I moved my brigade and a battery of four pieces of General Imboden's in direction of Moorefield, Hardy County, where I arrived early on the evening of the 30th [29th]. The infantry having failed to get up, I spent the remainder of the day in constructing bridges across the South and North Forks of the South Branch, and early on the morning of the 31st [30th] moved my command across the mountain in the direction of Patterson's Creek, upon which I had been informed by reliable scouts was a large supply train encamped, destined for Petersburg. In crossing the mountain I encountered, when in about 2 miles of the creek, a regiment of infantry blockading the road by felling trees across it, and by digging it away when constructed upon the side of a hill, &c. By dismounting a few men I soon dislodged them and drove them entirely through the gap. The obstructions were soon removed by the pioneers of the brigade, and the road reconstructed where it had been dug away. The brigade then fairly through, I pressed vigorously upon the enemy, who was then retiring in the direction of Williamsport to meet the train, which was then moving up. Upon my approach his wagons were parked and all dispositions made to meet my attack. The enemy's force (I have since learned numbered 1,100 men), I saw at a glance, was much larger than my own. I dismounted 300 or 400 men, and with the remainder in the saddle I charged him front, flank, and rear. The first onset was repulsed, but one piece of my artillery coming up (the enemy having none), my troops were much elated by this seeming advantage, and I charged him again, which was very successful, driving him into the mountains and giving me possession of the entire train of 95 wagons and teams, excepting a few of the latter that were cut away during the fight and run off, and the regiment I sent to occupy the road in rear of the train failing to get up in time, these mules and a few ambulances were allowed to escape.

The conduct of my men on this occasion entitles them to their country's gratitude. Indeed, I believe it is the first instance during this war where cavalry attacked successfully a superior force of infantry. I lost in the action 24 men killed and wounded. The enemy's acknowledged loss in killed and wounded was 80. I captured 40 prisoners, 2 captains and 1 major. The train, which was heavily loaded with commissary stores (bacon, rice, coffee, sugar, &c.), was turned over to General Early. Many of the wagons, however, had to be destroyed in consequence of the want of mules to bring them off, a number having been killed in the action and others ridden off by the fleeing enemy.

On the morning of the 1st I moved into Petersburg, the enemy having escaped upon one of the back roads, which it was impossible for me to guard with my small force. The enemy in evacuating this place left almost all his baggage and a large supply of provisions, which fell into the hands of my men.

From this place I proceeded, in obedience to instructions from General Early, down Patterson's Creek, with the view of driving out the cattle, and for this purpose I sent Major Gilmor's and Captain McNeill's commands, under the command of the latter, into the Alleghany Mountains, and placed one regiment in Mechanicsville Gap to prevent Averell, whom I expected from Martinsburg, from getting between me and General Early. I then pressed down the creek to its mouth, at which place there was a guard of one company, which I captured, and I destroyed here the railroad bridges across Patterson's Creek, the Potomac, and canal. I also destroyed one engine, all the property belonging to the road, the bridge for the pike across the canal, and one canal-lock. Learning that the enemy was in Romney in considerable force, and that he was struggling for the gap at which my regiment was posted, I abandoned the idea of going to Cumberland and turned back in direction of Moorefield, evading the enemy, who had forced the gap and got in my rear, and brought out safely all my prisoners and cattle.

Upon the expedition I captured 1,200 or 1,300 head of cattle, 500 or 600 sheep, 95 wagons, and 80 prisoners. Only fifty of the wagons were saved and brought to the valley. Everything else is now safe in the valley.

I am, major, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. L. ROSSER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Stuart's Cavalry Corps.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The bold and successful enterprise herein reported furnishes additional proofs of General Rosser's merit as a commander, and adds fresh laurels to that veteran brigade so signalized for valor already.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 19, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the War Department.

General Rosser acquitted himself with great credit in this expedition.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Third indorsement.]

MAY 4, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Noted. General Rosser exhibited both judgment and valor, and accomplished valuable results in this expedition.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

## JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 10, 1864.—Expedition against New Berne, N. C.

### SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Feb. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Batchelder's Creek.
2, 1864.—Skirmish at Gales' Creek.
Skirmish at Bogue Sound Block-house.
Skirmish at Newport Barracks.
Capture of the U. S. steamer Underwriter.
6, 1864.—Skirmish near Newport Barracks.

### REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Capt. Jesse Merrill, U. S. Signal Corps, chief signal officer, Department of Virginia and South Carolina.
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.
No. 3.—Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.
No. 4.—Col. Peter J. Claassen, One hundred and thirty-second New York Infantry, commanding outposts, &c.
No. 5.—Col. James W. Savage, Twelfth New York Cavalry.
No. 6.—Capt. Ira Winans, Ninety-ninth New York Infantry.
No. 7.—Capt. Charles G. Smith, One hundred and thirty-second New York Infantry.
No. 8.—Col. James Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding Sub-district of Beaufort.
No. 9.—Lieut. Col. Valentine G. Barney, Ninth Vermont Infantry.
No. 10.—Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding at Wilmington, N. C.
No. 11.—Brig. Gen. James G. Martin, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.
No. 12.—Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett, C. S. Army, commanding Department of North Carolina.
No. 13.—Brig. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.
No. 14.—Brig. Gen. Seth M. Barton, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.
No. 15.—Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Clingman, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.
No. 16.—Col. John Taylor Wood, C. S. Army.

### No. 1.

*Report of Capt. Jesse Merrill, U. S. Signal Corps, chief signal officer, Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

HEADQUARTERS SIGNAL CORPS,
*Fort Monroe, Va., February 27, 1864.*

MAJOR: In accordance with a general order from the Signal Officer of the Army, directing that in every engagement with the enemy in which officers and men of the Signal Corps take part, a report of their operations be made by the chief signal officer to the commanding general of the department or army, I would respectfully submit the following as to the operations of the detachment of the corps in the District of North Carolina in the recent attack upon New Berne. This report is made up from the reports of Lieutenants Thayer,

* For reports of Acting Rear Admiral S. P. Lee, Commander Henry K. Davenport, and other U. S. naval officers, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

Knox, Carpenter, and Craft, the first-named being in charge of the detachment.

For some time previous to the attack a line of signals, connecting all of the important points on the line of our outposts between the Trent and Washington roads with the headquarters of the officer commanding the outposts at Batchelder's Creek, was in operation. Unfortunately on the morning the attack was made a dense fog prevailed and prevented any communication during the first attack on the right of our line from Batchelder's Creek to Beech Grove. The disappearance of the fog during the latter part of the morning made it possible to transmit a few important messages, showing what might have been done under more favorable circumstances. If our line of signals could have been worked during the whole morning it is thought the command at Beech Grove could have been saved, as then timely notice could have been given them of the evacuation of Neuse road bridge, and enabled them to reach the point at which the road leading to Neuse road bridge intersects the Washington road before the enemy had pushed his column to this point.

Previous to the evacuation of Batchelder's Creek, word was sent by signals and signal telegraph (which, by order of Major-General Peck, was in charge of Lieutenant Thayer) to the left of the line of outposts to retire. Colonel Claassen, who commanded the outposts, has since expressed the opinion that this line of communication enabled him to save his entire left wing from capture.

After the concentration of our forces within the defenses of New Berne communication, maintained as it had been previously from the headquarters of the commanding general with Fort Anderson on the north side of the Neuse River and Fort Gaston on the south side of the Trent River, was opened with Fort Totten by means of the signal telegraph.

Officers and enlisted men, when it was necessary, were stationed on board of the gun-boats and picket-boats in the Neuse and Trent Rivers, and kept continual communication with the general commanding until the end of the siege. Many important messages were sent over these lines, and valuable service rendered. The officers and men, as far as my reports show, performed their whole duty, and remained faithfully at their stations, though necessarily much exposed. Three enlisted men were missing, 1 of whom was reported killed, but from information since obtained it is probable he is a prisoner.

I would respectfully ask that in future part of my command be allowed to accompany any expedition in or from this department against the enemy. They would probably be able to keep up communication between different parts of the force. If this could not be done they could be usefully employed in another and perhaps the most important duty of a signal officer in an active army, that of reconnoitering and finding the position and strength of the enemy.

I append to this report a map* showing the position of our station and our line of communication.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JESSE MERRILL,
*Capt. and Chief Signal Officer Dept. of Va. and N. C.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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*Not found.

No. 2.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 1, 1864—8 p. m.

MAJOR: At an early hour this morning our outposts at Batchelder's Creek were attacked by the enemy, represented by deserters and prisoners as being in force about 15,000, consisting of Hoke's brigade (of Early's division) and Pickett's entire division. It being impracticable to make an adequate defense at the point of attack, the small force at the outposts fell back upon the defenses of New Berne in very good order, destroying their camps and abandoning but few stores, and with a loss of from 50 to 100 men and one section of light artillery.

One regiment of infantry has been ordered up from Morehead, and our forces are so disposed as to make us confident of successful resistance, although, of course, less so than if our garrison were in strength one-third or one-half that of the enemy. The effective force at my disposal for the defense of this point is about 3,500, and upon this I shall be compelled to rely, as the distance and my limited means of transportation render it impossible to re-enforce from Plymouth, and the force in the other sub-districts is meager. Almost simultaneously with the attack I have mentioned the enemy advanced upon the south side of the Trent, in what force it is difficult to estimate, and were handsomely repulsed.

Up to this time communication has been maintained with Morehead, but I have information that the enemy is near the railroad with the probable intention of cutting it. The commanding officer of the Sub-district of Beaufort is fully aware of the situation, and, as a matter of course, no effort or vigilance will be spared to prevent interference with the road.

I remain, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Since writing the above information has reached headquarters that the section of artillery supposed to have fallen into the enemy's hands is at Beech Grove, and may be preserved, although the enemy is between it and us.

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 2, 1864.

MAJOR: Since my dispatch of last evening by hand of Lieutenant McVey, aide-de-camp, no material change in the situation has occurred. Skirmishing in my front continues, but it is hardly possible to judge confidently of the enemy's intentions or of his numbers. Fatigue parties are employed in strengthening my works, and the able-bodied citizens and negroes have been armed. Colonel Jourdan, commanding Sub-district of Beaufort, reports that his lines at Gales' Creek and Bogue Sound block-houses are attacked by an unknown force of cavalry and artillery. I have sent some light artillery to

his support by the railroad, which is thus far unmolested, and shall endeavor to co-operate with him by every measure consistent with the development of circumstances.

Some hours before daybreak this morning the navy gun-boat Underwriter, which had been placed, at my suggestion, in an advanced position in the Upper Neuse, was boarded by several armed boats' crews, numbering about 200, and after a brief resistance taken possession of. So soon as the fact was made known by some of the crew, who swam ashore, all our guns that could be brought to bear opened upon her, and in a short time she was discovered to be aground and in flames, though whether fired by the rebels or by our own shells is unknown. She is totally destroyed, and, without venturing to fix the responsibility for her capture, I may say that it appears to me utterly inexcusable. By her loss we are left with but two inferior navy boats, the Commodore Hull and the Lockwood, although I have endeavored to supply the deficiency in some measure by arming and manning the dispatch-boat Allison and ferry-boat Eagle, placing two guns upon each.

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 2, 1864.

GENERAL: Yesterday, at 3 a. m., the enemy attacked our outposts in large force, and forced them to retire, with some loss. At the same time an attack all along the line of the railroad from here to Morehead was commenced, and I have just heard of the fall of Newport, and that the enemy is in possession of the railroad. The attacking force is large, said to be Pickett's division and Hoke's brigade of Early's division, besides a great proportion of cavalry and artillery, in all probably four or five times our force here. Last night the Underwriter was boarded, captured, and burned in the Neuse River, opposite Fort Anderson. I am now cut off from the coast and liable to have batteries established on the river at any hour, and thus cut off altogether. My force here is in good heart and all within the intrenchments, and we can make a good fight, but we must have all the force I can get without detriment to other portions of the command. If, therefore, you are not fearful of any disaster to your own command you are directed to send me to this place the two regiments of Connecticut troops lately sent to you, and you are directed to request Captain Flusser, or the senior naval officer at Plymouth, to send one or two large gun-boats here to assist in keeping the river open. General Butler has been apprised of all this matter, and I presume he will take some measures to relieve me and to re-establish our old lines. I can hardly think that you can be disturbed by any large force while the enemy is working here, and I think that a portion of your force can be directed to this point. The furlough-men will be obliged to wait until this present press is over. We are engaged all around the lines all the time. I expect to make a stout resistance and to succeed in thwarting the enemy. If you think it advisable to send me a thousand of the furlough-men in lieu of the two Connecticut regiments I will let them go (if I remain in

command) as soon as this siege is raised. Please do not fail to represent this matter to Captain Flusser. I have no idea where Captain Davenport is now. He has been away from here for some time.

Very respectfully and hastily, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brigadier-General WESSELLS,
*Commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle.*

[Indorsement.]

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE,
*Plymouth, N. C., February* 3, 1864—4 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of department headquarters.

The Southfield and Whitehead left this place last night for New Berne; the Miami at daylight this morning for Washington, at the urgent request of Colonel McChesney, as he feared an attempt to cut him off from below was likely to be made. The Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers are now preparing to embark for New Berne. I can learn thus far of no indications to attack this place, but the movements of the enemy are secret, and it is impossible for me to divine their intentions. It will be seen that I am weak, having too few men to cover the lines, and but two small gun-boats—Seymour and Bombshell—without heavy guns. I have relied on the large gun-boats for their flanking fire on my right and left. I now rely more on the distance from railway and the impoverished condition of the country as a preventive for sending an overwhelming force to this point. A small one I do not fear.

H. W. WESSELLS,
*Brigadier-General Volunteers, Commanding.*

NOTE.—The supply of breadstuff is very small here, and should communication with New Berne be interrupted, it must come from Fort Monroe. I can do for ten days yet, but expect to diminish the rations.

H. W. W.

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NEW BERNE, *February* 2, 1864—5.15 p. m.

MAJOR: I am just informed by telegraph that the post of Newport is attacked, and I think it will fall. The rebels have the railroad now between Newport and Morehead City. The post of Evans' Mill is also surrounded, and our little forces at these points will no doubt be defeated, as the opposing numbers are much the largest. Colonel Jourdan still has Morehead City, but he may be forced to evacuate it and retire to Fort Macon. As long as we can keep the river open to its mouth we are well enough off here, but we have no means of keeping the river clear. I must now take to digging more, and hold on and do my best. I think I shall bring two regiments here from Plymouth, and ask the senior naval officer there to come here with one or two large gun-boats. Could not a few of them come here from Fort Monroe? You will perceive that this attack by the enemy

is made simultaneously along a line of nearly 50 miles. I write hurriedly, and I do not wish to detain the steamer, which is now ready to leave.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

MAJOR: By direction of the commanding general I inclose the within statement of the condition of the subsistence department at New Berne; also of Morehead City, Beaufort, and Fort Macon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

JANUARY 31, 1864.

Rations on hand at Morehead City, including Forts Macon and Beaufort:

| | Rations. |
|---|---|
| Hard bread | 25,000 |
| Beans | 10,000 |
| Rice | 10,000 |
| Tea | 5,000 |
| Sugar | 11,000 |
| Vinegar | 6,000 |
| Candles | 1,000 |
| Molasses | 20,000 |
| Potatoes | 3,000 |

JOS. A. GOLDTHWAIT,
*Captain and Commissary of Subsistence.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

FEBRUARY 2, 1864.

Rations on hand at New Berne, approximately:

| | Rations. |
|---|---|
| Meats | 687,000 |
| Breadstuffs | 456,000 |
| Coffee | 340,000 |
| Tea | 578,000 |
| Sugar | 198,000 |
| Beans | 40,000 |
| Pease | 70,000 |
| Rice | 23,000 |
| Mixed vegetables | 556,000 |
| Potatoes | 213,000 |

JOS. A. GOLDTHWAIT,
*Captain and Commissary of Subsistence.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 3, 1864—8 p. m.

MAJOR: My last communication to you concerning the state of affairs at this place was addressed to you yesterday at 5 p. m. At that hour the communication with Morehead City by telegraph was interrupted, and the telegraph operator at Newport reported the rebels on the railroad at that place. I was in communication with the stations Croatan and Havelock until 10 p. m. yesterday, at which time I ordered the commands at those points to this place, as the post at

Evans' Mill was about to be attacked ; and, if carried, the commands at the stations mentioned would have been jeopardized. The commands came safely. At midnight the rebel force, under the immediate command of General Pickett, commenced to retire toward Kinston. They had been immediately in front of Fort Totten, apparently making preparations for an attack during the day. I only directed firing upon them when they were in plain view. The firing was excellent, and whenever they appeared they were forced to retire immediately. On the south side of Trent River the same thing occurred. I had placed all the forces there under the command of Colonel Amory, of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers. I was not surprised when I discovered they had retired, although I certainly thought with their large force they would make a strong effort to capture this place. I have never had any fears as to my ability to hold the position, and in writing to you of affairs here, I have merely wished to keep the commanding general posted as to the actual condition of affairs ; not to request re-enforcements, except so much as to re-establish our communication with Morehead City, and to keep the river clear in case the rebels commenced to erect batteries on its banks. To-morrow I hope to open the communication with the coast. To-day I have followed up the retreating force with cavalry on the Neuse road toward Kinston, and on the other side of the Trent River toward Pollocksville. They appear to be making for Kinston, but I am still on the watch for them from a new quarter.

The force here is in good shape. I have armed a very respectable force of negroes, and we are in a good situation to stand a siege. At the first attack on our force at the Neuse bridge we lost 1 officer killed and 3 wounded. A few non-commissioned officers and privates were also killed and wounded. At this point the rebels suffered considerably, and among the killed was Colonel Shaw, of the Eighth North Carolina Volunteers. I made every effort to relieve the section of artillery reported as lost in my communication of the 1st instant. This section, with two companies as support, was sent to the support of a company of North Carolina loyal troops at Beech Grove, some 9 miles from here. The rebels came down the Neuse road so rapidly that they got in rear of the force at the Grove, and yesterday afternoon they sent two regiments and three pieces of artillery against them and captured them. The most of the North Carolina troops, I am happy to say, escaped.

Deserters have been coming in all day, mostly from North Carolina regiments, some few from Virginia and Georgia regiments. From them I got the following list of the forces brought against me, all under command of General George E. Pickett : Pickett's division, consisting of the three brigades of Kemper, Corse, and Armistead's old brigade ; the brigades of Clingman, Hoke, Ransom, and Barton ; sixteen pieces of artillery, formerly under Major Dearing, but now under Major Read ; two or three regiments of cavalry (one of them Baker's) ; in all, probably about 15,000.

I cannot at this time give any correct account of the losses in the Sub-district of Beaufort, but hope to communicate with Colonel Jourdan to-morrow, and to send complete reports to your office soon.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 4, 1864—3.15 p. m.

MAJOR: Since my communication of yesterday several gun-boats have arrived, and in case of attempt to erect batteries on the river we have sufficient force, I think, to put a stop to them. I have been feeling my way down to the coast by the railroad to-day. The rebels have been hovering along the track, but as yet I have heard of but little damage done by them. I have sent a force to Croatan, 10 miles from here, and I hope soon to have communication along the whole line. The force of the rebels on the opposite side of the Neuse River was three regiments of infantry, four pieces of artillery, and 500 cavalry, sent there, as I am informed by some deserters who have come in, for the purpose of capturing the force at Forts Anderson and Chase, in the event of the capture of the post of New Berne. There is a rumor that the enemy is still in large force at Newport, 11 miles from Morehead, but I doubt it.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 5, 1864.

GENERAL: I am directed by Brigadier-General Palmer, commanding, to express to you his thanks for your prompt and generous compliance with his request for re-enforcements from your command. The Fifteenth Connecticut, Colonel Upham, was reported at these headquarters about 9 o'clock last evening. Appearances favor the conclusion that the enemy has retired from this vicinity, and should this prove to be the case your troops will be returned so soon as we feel secure. In the mean time information from you will be attentively awaited, and the general will hold himself in readiness to respond to any demands you may feel called upon to make. General Butler states that two regiments from each division of Lee's army, in all about 8,000 men, had been sent into North Carolina, and is of the opinion that this constituted the entire force in our front; but our information is positive that Pickett's entire division from Tennessee was also here, the whole force being under Pickett's command. We have deserters and prisoners from all Pickett's brigades. If General Butler's information is accurate the enemy must have been in stronger force than we had believed. We are now reconnoitering the line of the railroad toward Morehead, in which direction there are still traces of the enemy.

We have no reliable information that Washington is threatened; should such be the case we may have to spare some of our troops in that direction.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Brigadier-General WESSELLS,
*Commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 7, 1864.

MAJOR: Since my last communication to you the Spaulding has arrived at Morehead, and the Twenty-first Connecticut are doing

good service in the Sub-district of Beaufort. The enemy left the vicinity of New Berne, as I informed you in my last, and scouts, which have been kept busy, report them as apparently returning by the different routes to Kinston.

The force of the enemy that attacked Newport are, however, still hovering in that vicinity. I will remark here that the enemy did not succeed in getting any of our artillery at Newport, and am told our losses in men in Colonel Jourdan's command will probably be in the vicinity of 50. The enemy left one iron gun in the neighborhood of Newport, which we can make serviceable. Working parties have been very busy in repairing the railroad, and I was very much in hopes of getting it in running order before the departure of the Spaulding; but this morning Colonel Dutton, who is at present in command at Morehead, informs me that there is a considerable force of rebels threatening Newport, and this will cause some delay. Colonel Jourdan came to consult with me last night, and he will return, if possible, to-day. It is perfectly easy for the enemy to harass our line toward the railroad, for they must have considerable force at Trenton to keep open their communication via Young's Cross-Roads, and it would take a larger force than we can spare just now to organize an expedition for the purpose of taking possession of these points. In any event, Colonel Jourdan considers the position at Morehead perfectly safe. I have, from what I consider good authority, learned the programme of the enemy on this expedition. The object was, of course, to get possession of this place, and the operations were to be as follows: General Pickett was to come immediately to New Berne, and, provided all the others came to time in order to make the attacks simultaneously, he hoped to get into the place by Fort Totten. He had about 6,000 men. General Barton had about 5,000 men, and he was to gain possession of the works on south side of Trent River, commencing at Brice's Creek. Colonel Dearing had three regiments—Fifteenth and Seventeenth Virginia (of Corse's brigade), and Sixty-seventh North Carolina (Whitford's), four pieces of artillery, and some 300 cavalry at a point about 2 miles from Fort Anderson (across the Neuse), and this force was to capture our forces there when this place should fall. General Martin was to attack Sheppardsville (Newport) and the places on the railroad. He had about 4,000 men. General Pickett, although his force was so large, was delayed some ten hours in getting from the Neuse bridge, where a stout resistance was made to the front of Fort Totten. General Barton arrived in good time at the front of Colonel Amory, but he could not cross Brice's Creek without bridging it, and although he had his own brigade, a portion of Ransom's and Kemper's, with four pieces of artillery and a respectable force of cavalry, he was forced to retire without effecting anything. Whitford (or Dearing), of course, remained quiet, and the good preparations made on my line from the Neuse to the Trent made the matter of an assault then absurd. Martin performed his part well; at least, he broke no communication with the coast, and he is still hovering around. You may, perhaps, see some flaming accounts in Southern papers of the success of the raid, but the commanding general may rest assured that, with the exception of the section of artillery lost at Beech Grove, the loss is too trifling to be mentioned. I sent out a couple of surgeons, with two ambulances, for the purpose of providing for some poor unfortunate small-pox patients, directing the surgeons to explain the humane errand on

which they were sent. The rebels permitted the sick people to remain where they were, and the medical officers were made prisoners, with the ambulances. This will probably be magnified into something of importance as well as heroic. The deserters and stragglers are constantly coming in. The number of these will probably exceed the number of our men lost at the various points.

The following regiments are represented among the deserters and prisoners, the great mass of them being deserters, who appear to be too well satisfied to get in here: Virginia regiments: Twenty-fourth, Fourteenth, Thirty-eighth, Fifty-third, Ninth, Fifteenth, Twenty-ninth, Eleventh, Seventeenth, Fifty-seventh; total, 10; North Carolina regiments: Eighth, Fifty-first, First, Twenty-first, Twenty-fifth, Forty-ninth, Fifty-fourth, Nineteenth, Sixty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, Forty-fourth, Fourth, Sixty-first; total, 13; Georgia—Twenty-first and Second; Stribling's battery, Fithler's* battery, Third North Carolina Battery.* Five sailors of the C. S. Navy were captured at the time of the burning of the Underwriter.

The boat expedition that came down the Neuse was made up of parties from Charleston, Richmond, and Wilmington. It was commanded by John Taylor Wood, formerly a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy. There were several C. S. Navy officers with him. The night before the Underwriter was captured and burned the expedition came into the river and searched it thoroughly for some naval vessels to destroy. It was so foggy that they returned to wait for a better opportunity. This shows a lamentable lack of vigilance, I conceive, on the part of the gun-boats, and I hope the lesson will be a profitable one. I will remark, however, that at the time of the capture of the Underwriter there were but two or three small gun-boats here, Commander Davenport having gone up the sounds with his own vessel, and I have no idea of the locality of the others. I have requested Commander Davenport to attend to the picketing of the river, and he cheerfully attends to my requests.

One of the prisoners informs me that he had been detailed to work on the rebel iron-clad ram, now building at Kinston. He says they are finishing the work on her as fast as possible; that the engine is not yet in her, but it was thought that a few weeks would complete her. She has four embrasures; can carry four heavy guns, and is plated with 4-inch iron and built after the model of the Merrimac. This is a matter for serious consideration. A vessel like the one described, could she get into the harbor, would do incalculable damage. I think there is no doubt of the truth of this statement. Dispatches from Colonel McChesney, from Washington, report everything quiet there, and I hear nothing to cause me to think that the enemy is at Plymouth.

I should feel that Morehead was more secure if we had more light-draught gun-boats there now. The Nansemond is doing good service there, but if we had some gun-boats that could run up the Newport River we could prevent easily the assembling of the enemy on the peninsula north and east of Morehead. I shall direct Colonel Jourdan to direct the Spaulding to proceed to Fort Monroe, on his arrival at Morehead, unless there is some good reason for her delay.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*Probably reference is to Ellis' battery, Third North Carolina Battalion.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 9, 1864.

MAJOR: Since my communication to you of the 7th nothing of importance has occurred in this portion of my command. Our line of outposts is re-established with very little changes. The communication with Morehead City is uninterrupted and the repairs on the railroad will be completed in two or three days.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fort Monroe, Va.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 20, 1864.

MAJOR: The various communications forwarded to you during and immediately after the recent demonstration of the enemy at this place gave to the commanding general of the department all the facts concerning the affair, but in these reports no statement of the losses either in men or material was given, and I have considered it proper to send with these statements of losses a sort of résumé of the former reports for the records of your office and for future consideration.

The attack was commenced at about 2.30 a. m. of the 1st instant, at the outposts at the point where the Neuse road crosses Batchelder's Creek, about 8 miles from this place. At that point there was a small force of 1 officer (Lieutenant Haring, One hundred and thirty-second New York Volunteers) and 13 men. At the approach of the enemy this force was on the alert, and the passage of the bridge disputed gallantly. The little party had taken up the bridge and stationed themselves behind a small breast-work and every attempt of the enemy to cross was handsomely repelled for several hours; in fact they did not succeed in driving the guard away until they had constructed a bridge at another point and taken them in rear. Colonel Claassen, of the One hundred and thirty-second New York Volunteers, was in command of the whole line of outposts, and he was ready. A few prisoners, taken very early in the attack, gave information of the strength of the enemy, their commanding general, &c., and this was communicated to me by telegraph. I immediately ordered out a small force of infantry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Fellows, of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers, with a section of artillery, to harass the advance on the Neuse road as much as possible, and to enable the troops at the outposts to retire in order. One section of artillery, with two companies of infantry, was also sent, at the request of Colonel Claassen, to check any force that might have been coming on the Washington road. The enemy approaching in this direction was some 5,000, with sixteen pieces of artillery, the whole under General Pickett, and they advanced directly down the Neuse road, our forces retiring slowly. The outposts on the approaches were duly notified of what was going on, and they retired with the exception of the command on the Washington road. This little force, together with the section of artillery and the two companies of infantry, remained at their posts until the enemy had passed down below the junction of the Neuse and the Washington roads, when they were cut off, there being no way of retiring to the city except by cutting their way through the enemy. This was simply impossible, and they were captured. At about noon the

enemy appeared in force on all sides of the town. On the south side of the Trent Colonel Amory, of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers, had been placed in command. Three brigades, with Baker's cavalry, with a few pieces of artillery, all commanded by General Barton, appeared at Brice's Creek in front of Colonel Amory, and commenced the attack there. This force had crossed the Trent River a few miles from Trenton on pontoon bridges. They were opened upon by a field battery of the Third New York Light Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Thomas. After a sharp firing, which lasted but a short time, the enemy retired as we supposed to attack at some other point, but they did not make their appearance again. As soon as the enemy appeared in front of the line between the Neuse and the Trent, they were opened upon by the guns from Fort Totten, and the cavalry under Colonel Savage, of the Twelfth New York Cavalry, with two mountain howitzers, remained in front of the line, and not only kept the enemy in check, but by the firing of the howitzers made us acquainted with the precise locality of the advancing column through the woods. The sun went down without any attempt to assault the lines. On the east side of the Neuse Colonel Anderson, commanding Forts Anderson and Chase, was closely watched by three regiments of infantry, four pieces of artillery, and a regiment of cavalry, all under the command of Colonel Dearing. No attack, however, was made there. After dark the rebel bands serenaded us, and not to be outdone in politeness the band from Fort Totten gave some patriotic airs from the top of the traverse.

At about 3 o'clock in the morning of the 2d, a force consisting of about 250 men of the rebel navy, commanded by Capt. John Taylor Wood, and in about fifteen small boats, surprised, captured, and burned the U. S. gun-boat Underwriter, lying in the Neuse River. The greater part of the crew of this vessel escaped, but the officers were all captured ; 6 of the attacking party fell into our hands. As soon as it was known that the boat was attacked the rifled gun from Fort Stevenson was brought to bear upon her, and the firing from that gun made it impossible for the captors to get the steamer away and she was fired. (Since writing this I have learned that Captain Westervelt, of the Underwriter, was not carried away. If this be so, he was either drowned or killed and burned up on the steamer.)

At midnight the enemy commenced to retire, and at 3 a. m. of the 2d, when I rode along the lines, all was quiet. At daylight some hundred deserters, who had concealed themselves when the retreat commenced, came to our pickets and gave themselves up. The retreating army was closely watched on the road leading to Kinston direct and via Trenton. During the attack on this place the enemy were busy on the railroad between this place and Morehead City. General J. G. Martin, with about 4,000 men of all arms of the service, was threatening Morehead City and the posts on the railroad. Colonel Jourdan, commanding the Sub-district of Beaufort, was vigilant and energetic, but his force was too small to enable him to compete with the enemy successfully. The small force at Gales' Creek and the Bogue Sound block-house were soon driven in and the enemy was soon in front of Newport, garrisoned by a regiment of infantry and a company of the Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery and two companies of cavalry. The report of the operations there are given in the report of Colonel Jourdan, inclosed herewith.

The post of Newport was captured, but our forces retired, leaving but little for the enemy. The other posts nearer to this place I then

ordered abandoned, and the garrison to come within the intrenchments here, which was done without loss. Hearing of the failure here, General Martin retired with his forces, capturing 1 gun and leaving 1 of his own, a much better piece, that he was unable to get away. He also captured a few prisoners. The loss, however, on our part was trifling, and the damage to the railroad so little that in a few days everything was repaired. With a few exceptions the conduct of the officers and men of the command was admirable during the whole affair. The case of Captain Conwell, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, mentioned in the report* of Colonel Jourdan, will probably be investigated before a court-martial. I ordered his arrest as soon as I found him here, as he could make no satisfactory explanation of his presence here.

At no time, I suspect, during the present war has the utility of the military telegraph and the signal corps been more fully demonstrated than during this late attack. The attack had scarcely commenced at the outposts when the telegraph had not only informed me of all that was going on in front, but the whole line of posts to Morehead was placed on its guard, and during the day the enemy were immediately around the city the signal corps kept us advised of the smallest movement of the enemy at any point of the line. I cannot speak too highly of these two corps.

I am sorry to be obliged to state that Lieutenant-Colonel Fellows and 8 other officers and 63 men, of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers, were captured. The enemy, by crossing Batchelder's Creek at points above and below, where they were stationed to check the advance, came upon them in flank and rear in overwhelming force and captured them. I am sorry also to record the death of Lieutenant Zenette, of the One hundred and thirty-second NewYork Volunteers, of Colonel Claassen's command, one of the gallant defenders of the Neuse bridge, who was killed at that place.

I will also remark here that the citizens turned out nobly and took the place of the provost guard, thus liberating an additional force for duty in the intrenchments. A force of nearly 900 negroes were also quickly armed, and this force I placed under the command of Captain Bartlett, of the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, who organized them into companies, and they did excellent service.

The list of casualties I inclose herewith, together with the report of Colonel Jourdan and those of some of the regimental commanders.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fortress Monroe, Va.*

[Inclosure.]

CASUALTIES.

*Forces and defenses of New Berne.*—Killed, officers, 1; men, 8. Wounded, officers, 2; men, 10. Missing, officers, 12; men, 293. Total loss, 326.

*Sub-district of Beaufort.*—Killed, men, 4. Wounded, men, 11. Missing, men, 52. Total loss, 67.

Grand total, 393 officers and men.

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

*See p. 77.

No. 3.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.*

STEAMER GENERAL BERRY,
*Near Roanoke Island, N. C., February 9,* 1864.

GENERAL: From all that I can glean the forces under General Pickett were from 15,000 to 17,000. His preparations were ample, and he felt confident of success. A large number of barges and boats were brought from Wilmington, and the iron ram started down with the boats but did not get through the obstructions below Kinston. We may at any moment have the effort renewed upon New Berne, or some other point may be selected. The information which you communicated yesterday respecting the sending of some 4,000 or 5,000 additional troops to North Carolina indicates such a purpose on the part of General Pickett.

In view of the great interests at stake in the State, and of the smallness of the force for its protection, I hope one regiment of cavalry and a brigade of infantry may be sent to me. A large force is much needed and should be sent if it can be spared without jeopardizing public interests elsewhere. The strong Union feeling all over the State, and the movements for a convention, have already caused Jeff. Davis to relieve the North Carolina troops by regiments from other more disloyal States. He does not intend North Carolina shall leave the Confederacy, and will scourge her people with his armies until the last knell of the revolution shall be sounded. In haste.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Major-General BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 10, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I arrived this morning, and have been very busy collecting information touching the recent operations of the enemy in this quarter. A telegram just received from Colonel Jourdan, who has been out to find the enemy with a considerable force, states that they have fallen back to Trenton and Jacksonville. There is hope of the railroad being in order by to-morrow afternoon. Have a gentleman who left Wilmington on Sunday, very reliable and well posted. He states that on Saturday, before the attack, General Martin left with 4,000 men to co-operate with General Pickett, who was reported as about to attack New Berne with twenty-odd thousand. The cars were all pressed in and a force also came from Weldon to Kinston. Boats, barges, &c., were also sent there. General Pickett had advices that only 4,000 men were in New Berne, which was nearly the number. General Pickett advanced on the Neuse road direct with about 6,000. General Barton crossed the Trent River near Trenton, and was to attack and carry the works and get possession of the bridges. General Martin was to attack Newport and Morehead, &c. General Barton, with his 5,000, found that Brice's Creek was between him and New

Berne, and he did not get across that deep and broad stream. This failure in the plan doubtless induced Pickett to fall back on Tuesday afternoon. It is stated that another column under Colonel Whitford was ordered to storm Fort Anderson, but did not make its appearance. In the morning I purpose going to Batchelder's Creek to see if any better line can be found. The rebels crossed on a pontoon bridge between the railway and the Neuse. On the 7th, General Wessells writes that a formidable expedition was preparing near Halifax, with boats, for the opening of the Roanoke. He also states that a naval brigade has been organized in Richmond for the purpose of recovering the sounds and tributary rivers. He asks for 3,000 effective men.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ADDENDA.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF N. C.,
No. 15. } *New Berne, N. C., February* 10, 1864.

The commanding general, learning of the desperate advance of the rebel hordes upon his lines in quest of bread, meat, clothing, and plunder, gave up his leave of absence and has returned to his command; not so much from doubt of the ability of the troops to hurl back the enemy as to share with them the honors, toils, and privations of the opening campaign. He returns his thanks to General Palmer and Colonels Jourdan, Amory, and Claassen, and to all the officers and men of their commands, for the gallant repulse of Major-General Pickett with more than twice their numbers. The moment was seized upon for executing a long and well-prepared plan when many of the troops were on furlough as veterans. On this occasion the enemy found by bitter experience that all our men were veterans.

Those regiments that were with the commanding general during the siege of Suffolk have earned fresh laurels in this late triumph over the troops of Pickett, Armistead, Kemper, and Hoke, their old adversaries under Longstreet and Hill.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 4.

*Report of Col. Peter J. Claassen, One hundred and thirty-second New York Infantry, commanding outposts, &c.*

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*Batchelder's Creek, N. C., February* 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to forward a copy of my report to district headquarters of North Carolina of an attack in force upon these outposts by the enemy, on the morning of Febru-

ary 1, 1864, together with a list of casualties of the One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Infantry.

To give the Department all the facts occurring, I have appended copies of reports of the Twelfth New York Cavalry and detachment Ninety-ninth New York Infantry, under my command, as also a copy of report of my general outposts officer of the day,* on duty as such at the time of attack. It is perhaps well to say here that the camp and garrison equipage destroyed by my orders were all old and worn out, and were to have been condemned within twenty days; the same was the case with three-fourths of the few horses captured by the enemy. The severest loss was sustained by the men of the One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Infantry, who lost everything but what they had on their person at the time of the fight. It strikes me that some compensation should be made to these brave men, who, after having held Pickett's division, with Hoke's and Kemper's brigades and the First North Carolina Battery, for seven hours, thereby saving New Berne, fell back in good order, passing their camp, which contained their all, and hearing me give the order to set fire to everything (which was done) without even a murmur escaping them, deserve on the part of our generous Government some recognition in the shape of an allowance in kind or money. Had they broken ranks and gone to camp to save, all would have been captured by the enemy. I ask this in behalf of the enlisted men, although the officers lost as well; still they have the cause sufficient at heart to replace out of their more liberal pay.

Any other reports or information your Department may desire will, upon notice, be promptly furnished.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Comdg. 132d New York and Outposts.*

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*Batchelder's Creek, N. C., February* 8, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor herewith to submit my report of the doings of my command on the morning of February 1, 1864.

About 2.30 o'clock of said morning I was informed that the enemy had attacked my pickets and were preparing to cross Batchelder's Creek. I found it so foggy that signals could not be used. I dispatched Company D, One hundred and thirty-second New York, Capt. Thomas B. Green commanding, double-quick to the Neuse Road bridge. First. Lieut. Abram P. Haring, of the One hundred and thirty-second New York, commanded at the time of attack the reserve at the Neuse bridge, consisting of 11 men, who heroically held that all-important point for over one hour against thousands of the enemy. Captain Green arriving while Lieutenant Haring was firing his last round of ammunition, Company D threw themselves (composed mostly of Indians) promptly behind the breast-works, and did so effectually resist the enemy that they (the enemy) had to bring up artillery. I had at the same time directed my general outposts officer of the day, Capt. Charles G. Smith, to proceed to the bridge with a cavalry escort to ascertain if possible what force and how strong was attacking us; dispatched also Companies E and G,

*Capt. Charles G. Smith.

commanded respectively by Capt. Peter S. Geraty and First Lieut. Joseph A. Gearing, to the bridge, and Company K, Capt. Alex. W. Smith commanding, to a new road at the left of my camp to check any flanking party of the enemy, as well as to observe an opportunity to operate against the enemy in flank. At about 5 o'clock I directed Maj. John B. Honstain to proceed to the bridge and assume command of what force was then at the bridge, whose brave conduct is worthy of mention.

At about 5.10 o'clock my general outposts officer of the day, Capt. Charles G. Smith, reported to me that the enemy was in great force, upon which I sent General Palmer my first dispatch, dated February 1, 1864, 5.30 a. m., but having no opportunity to get particulars I sent Lieut. William W. Wells, Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunters, my special aide-de-camp, and Capt. Charles G. Smith, with Company F, Capt. Ervin A. Jones commanding, Company C, Capt. George H. Swords, jr., commanding, and Company I, Second Lieut. Abraham J. Yoemans commanding, up the railroad to get on the enemy's right, then and there to get the information needed. Lieutenant Wells, aide-de-camp, finding a brigade opposed to him, disposed of this force with great coolness, and at such points holding a regular advance of the enemy effectually in check.

At this time I sent my second telegram to General Palmer, dated February 1, 1864, 6.15 a. m. I was still in the dark as to the force I had to contend with, and owing to a lull on the part of the enemy, I became impressed with the idea that I would finally have the pleasure to follow them up effectually, which I indicated in my third telegram to General Palmer, dated February 1, 1864, at 7.05 a. m. The move indicated in my fourth telegram to General Palmer, dated February 1, 1864, 8 a. m., satisfied me that the enemy were in great force, and knowing that my officers and men were better acquainted with the ground here than any force sent me from New Berne, I withdrew K Company from my left and sent it to the Neuse road, intending to use the infantry called for in my telegram to General Palmer, dated February 1, 1864, 8.25, on the railroad in my rear, so that, in case the enemy passed down the Neuse road, this infantry to check them at the railroad crossing, having also instructed First Lieut. Samuel Leith, One hundred and thirty-second New York, commanding at Beech Grove on my extreme right, by courier, to fall back with his entire force, composed of Company F, Second (Union) North Carolina Volunteers, and 14 men of the One hundred and thirty-second New York, on the Washington road, he to throw out pickets on his left and direct front to give him warning of the enemy having crossed the creek; then to retire down the Washington road, when he would meet a section of our artillery with some infantry; then to act as circumstances required, always remembering to get to New Berne with the entire force. This courier was killed, and this dispatch fell into the hands of a rebel officer, who called Monday night at Mr. Richardson's house, on the Washington road.

The capture, or rather the surrender, on the part of Captain Bailey, Ninety-ninth New York (he being the ranking officer), was owing to three causes: First, the fog prevented me signaling to Beech Grove; second, the courier carrying my orders was killed on the route, and the dispatch fell into the enemy's hands, giving them (the enemy) all the points; third, Second Lieut. Arnold Zenette, acting quartermaster, an accomplished horseman and well mounted, was afterward by me sent to see about the distribution of

ammunition, and from thence ride to Beech Grove to ascertain why I had not heard from the commanding officer there, and to repeat my instructions to Lieutenant Leith, not supposing that the re-enforcement of artillery and infantry had gone to Beech Grove; but while Lieutenant Zenette was attending to the first part of my orders he fell, pierced by a bullet through his head. Again my orders failed to reach Beech Grove.

I cannot avoid to say here that Lieutenant Leith, commanding at that time at Beech Grove, before re-enforcements of artillery and infantry reached him, should have had himself informed of events occurring on his left (Neuse road), and shaped his course accordingly, which would have prompted him to look to his retreat; the more so because communication between myself and him had not been established. By consulting the map it will readily be seen that, had the section of artillery held itself on the Washington road, as my dispatch calling for it indicated (otherwise I would have said to Beech Grove, instead of "toward Beech Grove"), and Lieutenant Leith's command fallen back to it, that they would not alone have had a safe retreat, but could, and no doubt would, have rendered efficient service in protecting our forces retreating down the Neuse road. My object in sending for the artillery to diverge on the Washington road was also to prevent the enemy from coming in the rear of our forces fighting at and about the Neuse road bridge, which they could have done by crossing the creek near Richardson's house, striking the Washington road, going down it, and marching up the Neuse road, and our ruin would have been complete. I am also ready to acknowledge that my dispatch about this section of artillery could (and perhaps should) have been more explicit as to my intended use of it, in order that General Palmer could have instructed the commanding officer to act accordingly; but I counted on these instructions coming from me through Lieutenant Leith, not doubting that I could get a dispatch to Beech Grove. I feel the loss, and regret it very much, and with its loss I have but one self-reproach to make, and that is, when I found that I had no positive proof that any of my orders had reached Beech Grove I could and should have sent a telegram to General Palmer requesting him to send a fleet courier toward Beech Grove, endeavoring to reach some officer with an order to fall back on New Berne. General Palmer acted in this matter entirely in deference to my judgment and knowledge of ground; hence the misfortune is mine.

I had meanwhile sent an order to Colonel Savage, commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry, to get his command all ready to occupy the road toward Deep Gully, and to send me a full troop with one of his howitzers. They arrived late, but the little time they were in action did good service. I respectfully refer to the respective reports of Colonel Savage, commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry, and Capt. Ira Winans, commanding detachment of Ninety-ninth New York Infantry, hereunto annexed, both forces being under my command on my left, explaining what my actions were regarding them.

A train came up about 8 a. m., by which I sent to New Berne some commissary stores and all the ammunition, together with the sick, the non-combatants, such as laundresses, &c., and desired Captain Webster, chief assistant quartermaster, who was up here with the first train, to have another one sent up at once.

About 9 a. m., a section of artillery with 125 men of the Seventeenth

Massachusetts Infantry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Fellows, arrived and reported to Lieut. Col. George H. Hitchcock, of the One hundred and thirty-second New York, to whom I, at almost the same time, sent an order for our forces to fall back, but owing to the non-acquaintance of the ground by the officers and men of this re-enforcement, and the enemy pushing on three sides, prevented this order being fully conveyed to these forces, and were therefore compelled to act on their own judgment, which caused the capture of several officers and men of the Seventeenth Massachusetts by the enemy. I do not by any means desire to impugn the abilities nor bravery of this re-enforcement. They came too late to enable them to operate against the enemy to any extent, and had they fallen all back (except the artillery) by the road leading to my camp, they would all have got in as well as one company, under Second Lieutenant Cann, of the Seventeenth Massachusetts, did.

I now saw the enemy crossing the railroad track some 2 miles in front of me. At this moment the second train arrived. The railroad monitor, under the able management of First Lieut. John Walker, One hundred and thirty-second New York, was shelling the woods to the right and left of the railroad as well as up the railroad, thereby enabling me to get all infantry force to my rear to go down the railroad track to New Berne. At this time I ordered Second Lieutenant Cann, with his command of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Infantry, to proceed to my camp and destroy it, and lower my camp colors. The order to lower the colors was the only one which caused a choking sensation in me. I also directed all commissary stores still left to be destroyed, which was effectually done by setting fire to everything. By this time the enemy got some guns in position beyond the woods to respond to our railroad monitor. They had the range by our signal station, but the woods being very thick they had to resort to plunging shot, and they managed to throw some shells around myself.

Second Lieutenant Cann, of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Infantry, having completed his work of camp destruction, and I seeing a few graybacks' bayonets glistening through the woods on the left of my camp, I ordered the monitor and train to fall back, giving them a parting shell. This train reached New Berne in safety, although it was attacked at the Neuse road crossing. Having all my forces to the rear of me, retiring in good order upon New Berne, I fell back myself, sending a telegram to General Palmer, dated February 1, 1864, 9.50 a. m. Second Lieutenant Cann, of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Infantry, with his few men, were my advance guard, Company B, One hundred and thirty-second New York, under Lieutenant Hallenbeck, my rear guard. I was accompanied by Lieut. Col. George H. Hitchcock, Capt. Charles G. Smith, general outposts officer of the day (whose report is herewith inclosed), and First Lieut. William W. Wells, Fifty-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, my aide-de-camp. Marching down the railroad we soon heard cannonading, which admonished us that the woods and swamps were the only means of escape toward the Trent road, and if possible to New Berne.

After a dangerous and fatiguing march under the protection of my brave rear guard, composed of B Company, One hundred and Thirty-second New York, commanded by Second Lieut. Henry Hallenbeck, who had several conflicts with the enemy to enable us to escape, we reached the Trent road at about 1 p. m., at a point 3

miles from New Berne. After ascertaining that the enemy were not below me, and finding that the forces from my left had not passed here yet (Twelfth New York Cavalry and detachment Ninety-ninth New York Infantry), I sent my aide-de-camp up the Trent road, when he soon met Colonel Savage's advance guard. When it reached me, I had the pleasure to find that my hostler had got through with my horse, and I mounted with considerable satisfaction. Soon after this, Colonel Savage (an accomplished officer) reported to me with his command, but finding that Captain Winans, of the Ninety-ninth New York, with his command, stationed at the Red House, had not got in yet, I directed Colonel Savage to deploy some of his command on the right and left of the Trent road to protect Captain Winans on both flanks, when we had soon the satisfaction to see all safe, marching toward New Berne.

I need not here enlarge upon the fact that owing to the vigilance of my pickets and the stubborn resistance at the Neuse road bridge, prevented an overwhelming force of the enemy to rush upon New Berne before even a warning could be given that garrison. The fact that my men have for months at each and every roll-call turned out under arms, causing them to become habituated to them, has contributed largely to the prompt resistance given the enemy. I attach so much importance to this mode of roll-calls that a general order directing it to be done by all the troops would add a great deal to their efficiency.

It may appear from this report as hazardous to detain the second train as long as I did, thereby running the risk of having it cut off at the Neuse road crossing and the loss of the monitor. My reasons were as follows for so doing: First, the monitor enabled me to check the enemy. If I let the train go, I would have had to sacrifice the monitor for want of power to transport it. Second, I was, under the monitor's protection, enabled to get the several companies of the One hundred and thirty-second New York to withdraw in good order, which they all did, even paying, by command of each respective captain, the usual military compliment of bringing their arms to a "shoulder" in passing me. Third, my presence was needed at that point to prevent the men from rushing pell-mell into camp endeavoring to save their traps, for it must be remembered that all were ordered in action from 2.30 a. m. till time of retreat, with nothing but light fighting trim; hence all their dress coats, spare pants, knapsacks, blankets, canteens, and haversacks, besides several had their money in their quarters (having been paid recently), all of which formed strong incentives to save, and it required the highest authority present to check any scattering to camp, because each and every one would have been captured who had gone there. I must also add that the respective officers had all their traps in quarters, adding if possible to the incentive to save, but I must also add that the order I gave to destroy camp was heard by them all, but not a murmur even escaped them. They marched by me as if forming for drill. I am well aware of the personal risk I ran, after men, train, and monitor were sent back, but I knew that my men were of more service to New Berne than myself; hence I deliberately ran the risk of capture, which good fortune willed otherwise and knowledge of ground facilitated.

Of course I cannot state the exact loss of the enemy, but from all reports gathered the enemy has admitted from 300 to 400 being killed and wounded at Batchelder's Creek; and their veterans ad-

mitted that Batchelder's Creek fight was about as hot as they ever had it from the damned Yankees.

Private Robert B. Vanderhoef, U. S. military telegraph operator at my headquarters, deserves mention for his promptness and correctness, and who, after sending my last dispatch, cooly took up his instrument and jumped with it onto the last train while it was in motion.

I do not deem it necessary to mention more minutely than I have the brave, calm, and implicit obedient conduct of all my officers, and the men seemed actually to enjoy the contest, and any enemy that undertakes to surprise any pickets of the One hundred and thirty-second New York will find his work very difficult.

After arriving at New Berne the One hundred and thirty-second New York reported, agreeably to General Palmer's orders, on the right of Fort Rowan, where they did their regular duty with the other troops, until the happy order to resume our old position reached me. Report of casualties is appended.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

Maj. B. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

*Report of killed, wounded, and missing of the One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Infantry Volunteers, at Batchelder's Creek, N. C., on the morning of February* 1, 1864.

| Command. | Killed. | | Wounded. | | Missing. | | Total. | | Aggregate. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | |
| Company A | *a*1 | | | 1 | | 6 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Company B | | | | | | 7 | | 7 | 7 |
| Company C | | | *b*1 | 1 | | 6 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Company D | | 1 | | | | 9 | | 10 | 10 |
| Company E | | | | | | 10 | | 10 | 10 |
| Company F | | | | | | 8 | | 8 | 8 |
| Company G | | 1 | | 1 | | 12 | 1 | 13 | 14 |
| Company H | | 1 | *c*1 | | *d*1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Company I | | | | | | 5 | | 5 | 5 |
| Company K | | 1 | | 1 | | 13 | | 15 | 15 |
| Non-commissioned staff | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 79 | 5 | 86 | 91 |

*a* Second Lieut. Arnold Zenette was killed while gallantly discharging his duty.
*b* First Lieut. Joseph A. Gearing severely wounded.
*c* Second Lieut. W. A. C. Ryan severely wounded.
*d* First Lieut. Samuel Leith, commanding at Beech Grove, missing in action.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding 132d New York and Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General PALMER:

The enemy is attacking us at the Neuse road bridge. They have some artillery. Please have a section of artillery come up on the Neuse road.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—6.15 a. m.

General PALMER:

Your dispatch received. Of course as soon as I am satisfied that I cannot manage them and drive them back I will fall back. Please have another section march up the Neuse road, to diverge toward Beech Grove by the Washington road. I think at daylight we will have some fun here. Have the railroad engine ready. My signals are befogged.

P J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 4.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—7.05 a. m.

General PALMER:

I am now trying to flank them; I think they have had about enough, still their lull may be deceptive. I would like four or five companies infantry march up the Neuse road, so that I can follow them up effectually. I have some few wounded.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—8 a. m.

General PALMER:

Your last dispatch received. Thank you for the prompt aid. If I can't whip them back with that, I will fall back in order. I expect momentary report of a move which will decide my further action, of which you will be promptly advised.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 6.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—8.25 a. m.

General PALMER:

Pickett's whole division is in our front. Let some of the infantry come by train. Send train up at once, so that in case we have to retreat that some of our camp and garrison equipage can be saved. Hoke's brigade is here from Lee's army.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 7.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—8.45 a. m.

General PALMER:

I have 2 prisoners, who report that Pickett's division is here with two brigades of Lee's army. They say that a general attack will be made. They mean to besiege New Berne. The first chance I have I will send these prisoners to you. Prepare for a severe attack.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 8.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—9.20 a. m.

General PALMER:

They are pushing us very hard. They are advancing regularly on us on the Neuse road. They are now coming down the railroad. The train sent for by Captain Webster should be sent at once.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

[Inclosure No. 9.]

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*February* 1, 1864—9.50 a. m.

General PALMER:

We are falling back.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

*ADDENDA.*

*Return of casualties in the Union forces commanded by Col. Peter J. Claassen at Batchelder's Creek (outposts of New Berne), N. C., February* 1, 1864.

[Compiled from nominal list of casualties, returns, &c.]

| Command. | Killed. | | Wounded. | | Captured or missing. | | Aggregate. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Enlisted men. | Officers. | Enlisted men. | Officers. | Enlisted men. | |
| 17th Massachusetts | | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 58 | 74 |
| 2d North Carolina (Company F) | | | | | | 57 | 57 |
| 12th New York Cavalry | | 1 | | | | 6 | 7 |
| 99th New York | | | | 1 | 2 | 60 | 63 |
| 132d New York | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 79 | 91 |
| 3d New York Light Artillery, Battery K | | | | | 1 | 33 | 34 |
| Total | 1 | 8 | 5 | 10 | 9 | 293 | 326 |

## No. 5.

*Report of Col. James W. Savage, Twelfth New York Cavalry.*

HDQRS. TWELFTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
*Camp Palmer, February* 6, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In reference to the operations of that portion of above regiment under my immediate command on the 1st instant, I have the honor to make the following report:

At 7.45 on the morning of that day I received from Col. P. J. Claassen the following order:

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS, *February* 1, 1864—6.35 a. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

We are pretty lively attacked on the Neuse bridge. Get your command all ready. Let me have, as soon as possible, a troop (full) with one of your howitzers. Occupy the road toward the Gully. As soon as you can signal or telegraph open communication with me.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

In pursuance of this order I sent Troop G with a howitzer, under the command of Captain Graham, to report at Batchelder's Creek, and directed Captain Roche, commanding Troop A, and Lieutenant Hathaway, commanding Troop L, to hold the road from the Deep Gully to Rocky Run. The remainder of my force, consisting of Troops E, H, and M, with one howitzer, I retained at Rocky Run, sending the gun with a small force across the run to retard the advance of any force coming down the Trent. I sent out strong patrols to Tar Landing, Lime Kiln Landing, Bear Grass Landing, and Camp Palmer.

The morning was foggy, and signals could not be seen. At about 8.30 a. m. telegraphic communication was open for a short time, and I received from Colonel Claassen a message similar to the one given above, to which I replied. At 9.30 I received from Colonel Claassen the following communication:

FEBRUARY 1, 1864—8.55 a. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

The enemy is in very large force. Get yourself informed and keep informed. I think they will attempt to cross the Trent below you. Let me hear from you in reply.

CLAASSEN,
*Colonel.*

I replied by telegraph that I had the Trent fully patrolled.

At about 10 Colonel Claassen directed me to fall back with my entire force, inclusive of the Ninety-ninth, to the line of my camp, leaving vedettes to give me information of an approach. I gave orders to this effect at once, but it was not until 12 o'clock that my whole force, with the infantry at Pine Tree, reached my camp.

About 11 I received the following:

COLONEL: We suppose you have already heard of what is going on in our front. You must look well to the cavalry. Keep your communications open with us, and recollect that the defense of New Berne is to be made at New Berne. I do not know what orders you have received from Colonel Claassen, or whether you are in communication with him. If the troops on your right retire, you will of course be expected to retire also. Of course much has to be left to your good judgment. Send in couriers occasionally to inform us what you find along the lines to report to Major Foster at district headquarters.

What we hear from Colonel Claassen is that Colonel [General] Pickett's division is on his front, and are advancing with the intention of besieging New Berne.

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

WM. L. WHEATON,
*Aide-de-Camp.*

At about 12.30 Lieutenant Linskey, of my regiment, who had been sent with Troop G to Batchelder's Creek, reported that the right had been driven into New Berne, and that the enemy were past the crossing of the Neuse road and the railroad. My wagons had been already loaded; I set fire to my tents and a small quantity of forage, and ordered the troops to move.

At Camp Palmer we were joined by a portion of the One hundred and thirty-second Regiment, under your command. The column moved forward slowly and was not molested until within sight of Fort Totten, when a few shots were fired from the woods on my left and a line of skirmishers was visible. No regular attack, however, was made, and the enemy retired before a few shots from my howitzer and one or two from the fort.

At this point, learning that Captain Winans, with his detachment

of the Ninety-ninth at the Red House, had not retired by way of the railroad, I sent back a troop to escort them in, and at about 4 o'clock entered New Berne and reported to Captain Judson, assistant adjutant-general.

The operations of the regiment for the succeeding days were under the direction of General Palmer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES W. SAVAGE,
*Colonel Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry.*

Lieut. A. A. NEAL,
*Post Adjutant.*

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No. 6.

*Report of Capt. Ira Winans, Ninety-ninth New York Infantry.*

NINETY-NINTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
*New Berne, N. C., February 5,* 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I herewith transmit this my report of the operations of the detachments of the Ninety-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, on outpost duty at Red House and Pine Tree during the late attack of the enemy, and the forcing back and withdrawal of the outposts to the line of the immediate defenses of New Berne, N. C.

The detachment was composed of Companies A, D, E, F, and 22 men detached from Companies B, H, and K. There was no officer but myself with Company A; Capt. George L. Elder, with his officers (First Lieut. F. L. Harding and Second Lieut. Michael Mulvaney), commanded Company D (40 men) and the 22 men of Companies B, H, and K at Pine Tree; Second Lieut. John B. Mendenhall commanded Company E, and Second Lieut. Henry Morrison Company F, there being no other officers present than those named. In all there were 6 officers and 190 effective men. There were also at my disposal at Red House 1 corporal and 5 privates of Twelfth New York Cavalry.

Just after reveille, February 1, 1864, I was informed that heavy firing had been heard in the direction of our right on Batchelder's Creek, about 2 a. m. The discharges of artillery were heard for about half an hour. There was no unusual occurrence on the front guarded by men from the detachment. I did not make inquiry by telegraph concerning the firing heard, because I thought if it were best for me to know I would be informed at the proper time. Mean time I kept the men well in hand, issued 60 rounds of ammunition to the men, and had all the packing boxes opened that more could be readily procured if necessary. My first direct information was by a courier with dispatches from Colonel Claassen to Colonel Savage, at Rocky Run, at 9 a. m. He said he was instructed to inform intermediate posts that the enemy were attacking heavily.

At 10 a. m. I received the following:

Captain WINANS:

We are heavily attacked. Fall back when you receive orders from Colonel Savage.

CLAASSEN,
*Colonel.*

This was signaled. I telegraphed a copy to Captain Elder, at Pine Tree, and ordered him to act accordingly.

At 10.30 a. m. the following was signaled from Captain Elder:

I have received orders from Colonel Savage to fall back to his camp, as the enemy are in heavy force.

At 10.45 a. m. the following was brought to me by an orderly from Captain Roche, Twelfth New York Cavalry:

Captain ROCHE:

You will fall back with your entire force, inclusive of the Ninety-ninth at Red House, to the line of this camp, leaving vedettes to give information of an approach.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
*Colonel.*

Upon receipt of the foregoing I sent the corporal and 3 of his men (cavalry) to order my guards in on the Tuscarora road, and to retire one-fourth of a mile in their rear until within 1 mile of camp, where he was to stay till ordered to retire, sending 1 man to warn me of the approach of an enemy, and if forced, to fall back as slowly as possible, this to enable those men coming off picket to equip themselves with their effects. I had all my command under arms awaiting them. I had sent my only means of transportation (one wagon) with Corpl. Thomas Jones, of Company E, acting commissary sergeant, and Matthew Kirkham, private of Company E, to Batchelder's Creek to draw rations for first ten days of February.

Lieutenant Carpenter, signal officer, and his men passed me at 11 a. m., saying he had been bidden good-by from Pine Tree and could not communicate with Batchelder's Creek. Such being the case, I, with him, thought he should retire. The guards all arrived in, and allowed me to start on my retreat at 12.20 p. m., informing the vedettes when we were under way. They, by direction, with me fell back, keeping a proper distance in the rear to warn me of any approach of an enemy. I left 1 sergeant and 4 men to guard the stores, camp and garrison equipage until I endeavored to get transportation from Rocky Run, with orders, if the enemy came, to escape through the woods to the rear.

My line of march was along the road to Pine Tree till I came to the road which, passing to the rear of Captain Elder's camp, meets the Trent road about half a mile this side of Pine Tree. Until arriving in the Trent road I had 3 cavalrymen one-third of a mile in advance; thereafter all the cavalry remained that distance in rear. Upon arriving at Rocky Run, finding every one gone and the camp on fire, I sent back my orderly to the Red House and ordered the men whom I had left as a guard to follow me into New Berne, which same they did, arriving about one and a half hours after the main body. About 1½ miles this side of Rocky Run I was overtaken by a corporal and 3 men, who had been out by order of Colonel Savage to find me. He was in rear of their camp, and as I passed to the right of it we missed each other.

About 2 miles outside I was met by a company, commanded by Captain Myers, Twelfth New York Cavalry, sent out by Colonel Savage to escort us in. Up to this time we had not hurried much from the fact that we saw no enemy, but as we were told the enemy had shown himself along the road and there was danger of being cut off, I ordered the men to step out, which act, with the heavy load they had of all their effects, caused the line to lengthen some. I arrived within the works about 4.30 p. m.

Captain Elder, with the 70 men at Pine Tree, retreated with the Twelfth New York Cavalry. He, just as his pickets were being drawn in, saw half a dozen rebels on the road between Pine Tree and Red House. The only one seen by any of us at the Red House was one at Batchelder's Creek on the Tuscarora road, as one of my pickets went down to get a drink. They challenged each other, and my picket fell back to his post. All the men of the detachment came inside the works at New Berne unharmed, save Corporal Jones and Private Matthew Kirkham, both of Company E, who were in the wagon. The men under Captain Elder lost all their effects except those on their backs, being ordered by the commanding officer of the Twelfth New York Cavalry to leave their knapsacks in the woods, as they could not retreat fast enough with them on. The camp at Pine Tree was burned. I did not destroy anything at the Red House, as I hoped to be able to save them from the enemy, who seemed to be on the Neuse road only, and what little was there would not avail them much.

I understand that William H. Ingram, who came in, was again allowed to go out by the general commanding, to communicate if possible with the forces at Beech Grove. He is, I believe, still absent. I saw no vedettes on my way in till near Fort Totten. Considering the number of sick men, all praise is due to officers and men for the good order that prevailed.

I understand that the wagon was used by order of the colonel commanding outposts upon its arrival at Batchelder's Creek. I have been unable to hear from it or those who were in it since. The line of outposts guarded by the detachment extended from Pine Tree along the road to Red House, thence along the Tuscarora road to where the road is crossed by Batchelder's Creek.

Hoping this will be found complete enough, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

IRA WINANS,
*Capt. Co. A, 99th N. Y. Vol. Infy., lately Comdg. Detach.*

Lieut. W. W. WELLS,
*Special Aide-de-Camp to Colonel Claassen.*

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No. 7.

*Report of Capt. Charles G. Smith, One hundred and thirty-second New York Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*Batchelder's Creek, near New Berne, N. C., February 7*, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I came on duty as outposts general officer of the day at 9 a. m., January 31, 1864, and was relieved at New Berne, N. C., on the morning of February 2. The following is a summary of events connected with my tour of duty:

On January 31, visited all the posts along our front from the Red House to Beech Grove, and found all quiet and everything satisfactory.

On the morning of February 1, at about 2.30 o'clock, a cavalry messenger from Lieutenant Haring brought word of an attack on our pickets near the Neuse bridge. I proceeded there at once with Lieutenant Pittman and 8 men of the Twelfth New York Cavalry, leaving

the balance of the cavalry company in camp ready for immediate service. Arriving at the bridge I found that the enemy had made a dash at our pickets on the Neuse road, capturing probably two posts, only 3 men having succeeded in reaching the block-house, but these, with the reserve of 11 men, were keeping up a steady fire at the enemy, who, feeling conscious of their strength, had boldly advanced to the edge of the creek in considerable numbers, in front and on the right, and were trying to hit wherever they saw a head or heard a noise. The time of attack was well chosen, for a fog and light drizzling rain covered their advance, besides cutting off all our signal communication. After dismounting 4 cavalrymen, placing them behind the breast-work on the left of the bridge, where there were only 2 of our men, sending men to the right and left to prevent a flank movement, and cautioning Lieutenant Haring not to waste his ammunition, I dispatched a messenger to you, stating the situation and requesting re-enforcements, sending written orders at the same time to Lieutenant Leith, commanding at Beech Grove, to send me 10 men and to advance his pickets toward the Neuse road along the creek.

At this time a squad of cavalry, under Lieutenant Marshall, reported to me, and leaving messengers at convenient points, I posted the rest on the right and left of the bridge, where the enemy appeared in some strength, and on the right especially were yelling like devils, and had just sent up a rocket. The fire at this time was severe, as the rebels had opened from four pieces (Napoleons), planted just beyond the ruins of Rigdon Richardson's house, and were firing shell and occasional canister, having the range perfectly, but firing generally too high.

Returning from the bridge this time I found that you had anticipated my request for re-enforcements, and I met Captain Green with his company (D), who at once took position at the breast-works, and deployed along the creek to the left, firing with great spirit, holding the enemy in check, and apparently doing considerable execution, as the rebel fire slackened for a few minutes. Lieutenant Wells, special aide-de-camp, and Major Houstain arrived immediately afterward with Companies E and G, and being informed by the major that you desired me to report in person at camp, I immediately proceeded to do so, sending one of my orderlies on the way to order back the 10 men from Beech Grove, as an attack might be expected at that point also. After reporting to you and procuring a fresh horse I started, by your direction, with Lieutenant Wells and Companies H and I up the railroad, where Company B had been sent previously to guard the block-house. We took the Mill road leading to the right, and passing the rear of Davis' house where Company F was guarding the ford in the creek, Lieutenant Wells requested me to take a few men and cross the ford to see if the enemy were retiring, as their artillery fire had been discontinued for a short time. I crossed here and advanced a short distance toward Rigdon Richardson's house, on the Neuse road, without finding anything, and leaving the men posted, returned, and was joined by Lieutenant Wells with Companies F, H, and I. We then advanced through the woods, Company F in the advance, deployed as skirmishers, but had not gone over 150 yards when we came upon the enemy, and retired under a brisk fire across the ford, which Company F was left to guard, and Lieutenant Wells returning to camp, I went with the other two companies to the old mill, which

had been held all the morning by the pickets who had fallen back that way when attacked on the front. I here sent 15 men in charge of Sergeant-Major Whitney to the left to keep up communication with Lieutenant Hallenbeck at the block-house on the railroad, and deployed 8 men on the right to establish a line with Company F, at the same time advancing skirmishers in front of our position and making a barricade of planks and timber at the mill crossing.

Just as our preparations were completed we received orders from you to fall back to camp. At the same time the enemy appeared, crossing the field with a line of skirmishers and a battalion advancing in line of battle in rear of them. As they were within pistol-shot I left 10 men at the mill to check them, and ordered the rest to retire, sending an orderly to Captain Jones and a messenger to the sergeant-major.

The men at the mill fired two volleys, but it did not have the effect of checking them much, for they charged on the barricade, and the force there had barely time to fall back in good order to camp when the rebels appeared on the railroad, and we commenced shelling them from the monitor. At this time they had succeeded in crossing near the Neuse bridge by felling trees across the creek, and were advancing down the Neuse road. As I was riding toward their position I met Lieutenant-Colonel Hitchcock, who directed me to go to the Neuse road and repeat his order to the artillery to make the best stand they could on that road at a point just above the railroad crossing, and also to send all of our forces who were coming in toward camp as soon as possible.

I had almost reached the road when I met a portion of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Infantry, who informed me that the artillery had retreated out of sight. I directed them to deploy as skirmishers on the cross-road near camp, and, if necessary, to retreat through the woods to a point on the railroad just below us. As our men were then near the signal station a retreat was ordered, and Company B, under Lieutenant Hallenbeck, which had just retired before the enemy's skirmishers on the signal cut, was ordered to act as rear guard. As this is my own company I remained with them. They marched down the railroad in perfect order, although menaced by a force of infantry just behind them, until one-half a mile from the railroad crossing, when we learned that yourself, Lieutenant-Colonel Hitchcock, and a party who had been just ahead of us had been headed off and obliged to take to the woods, but not believing it possible that the enemy could have intercepted us so soon, we went on until within pistol-shot of a large force which appeared on the railroad crossing. Discovering here that we were cut off, I gave Lieutenant Hallenbeck the order to file right and double-quick through the woods on a road which leads to the old Government corral. But as soon as the rebels saw us trying to escape they pursued with cavalry and infantry, and a brisk skirmish ensued.

Although the woods fairly swarmed with rebels the coolness and steadiness of Lieutenant Hallenbeck and his men carried them through with the loss of 1 corporal and 3 privates taken prisoners. I think they inflicted some damage on the enemy, as our men fired deliberately, and several were seen to fall. We were joined at this place by yourself and escort, and the pursuit being discontinued soon after, the whole party reached the Trent road in safety, and meeting there the rest of the regiment, which had crossed farther up, pro-

ceeded to New Berne, arriving at 2.30 p. m., twelve hours from the time of our first attack.

I must beg leave before closing my report to mention in my official capacity such individual instances of coolness and heroism as came under my notice. Where the whole regiment, emulating the example of its commanding officer, displayed such a brave and determined spirit it would seem invidious to particularize, but leaving it to Lieutenant-Colonel Hitchcock, who conducted the fight on the Neuse road, and to the commandants of companies engaged, to call your attention to merit which has escaped me, I mention as an act of duty those whom I saw distinguishing themselves. Lieutenant Haring's brave defense of the Neuse bridge is worthy of especial mention. In this he was nobly seconded by Capt. Thomas B. Green, Lieutenant Cusick, and Companies D and G, with Lieutenants Gearing and Ryan, who were both badly wounded, the respective companies losing heavily. It was here that Lieutenant Zenette, acting quartermaster, fell while supplying the men with ammunition. He was a brave and accomplished soldier and gentleman, and fell universally regretted.

The well-known coolness and good judgment of Lieut. W. W. Wells, your special aide-de-camp, contributed largely to our defense and ultimate safe retreat.

Capt. E. A. Jones, commanding Company F, maneuvered his men steadily during a brief skirmish with the enemy, and the courageous conduct of Lieutenant Hallenbeck, First Sergt. William L. Ludlum, and the non-commissioned officers and privates of Company B, who formed the rear guard, I need not enlarge upon, as the facts in the case you had ample opportunity of witnessing.

The regiment has proved itself to be worthy of New York. From the statement of prisoners it appears that we were opposed, with a handful of men, to thousands of the enemy's veteran troops, comprising the brigades of Kemper, Ransom, and Hoke, with the Twenty-first Georgia and Forty-third North Carolina, and other troops, the whole under the command of Major-General Pickett; that their object was to capture, if possible, our pickets without firing a shot, to take the Neuse bridge by surprise, and advancing on New Berne, to enter the city at 5 a. m. before sufficient preparations could be made for its defense. Of this there can be no doubt. This bold plan has been defeated this time by the vigilance of our pickets and the determined opposition which the enemy met with from our regiment.

During the fight on the Neuse road we were re-enforced by a portion of the Seventeenth Massachusetts and a section of Captain Angel's battery, Third New York Artillery, who all behaved with their accustomed gallantry, but this force only arrived in time to take part in a hopeless encounter with a vastly superior force and in a retreat which was inevitable, after a foothold had once been gained by the enemy on this side of the Neuse bridge.

The minuteness with which I have detailed the incidents connected with my tour of duty must be my apology for the extreme length of this report, which is very respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. G. SMITH,
*Capt. 132d N. Y. Vols., General Officer of the Day.*

Col. P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Commanding Outposts.*

## No. 8.

*Reports of Col. James Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding Sub-district of Beaufort.*

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
*Morehead City, N. C., February* 10, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to forward, for the information of the major-general commanding, the following report of operations in this sub-district during the recent advance of the enemy:

On the 1st instant, in compliance with orders from Brigadier-General Palmer, I sent the One hundred and fifty-eighth Regiment New York State Volunteers to New Berne, leaving Morehead garrisoned by Company C, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, and about 200 unarmed recruits of the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York State Volunteers. I withdrew 100 men from the garrison of Fort Macon, 50 of whom I placed at Beaufort and the balance at Morehead City. Captain Fuller, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, was placed in command of Beaufort. On the night of the 1st instant I received the arms and ammunition asked for, with which every man, both soldier and citizen, was armed for the defense of the place.

On the 2d instant my lines were attacked at Gales' Creek picket station by a large force of the enemy, consisting of General Martin's brigade of infantry, artillery, and cavalry. The rebels were twice repulsed, but their vastly superior numbers compelled the withdrawal of our little force, they falling back on Bogue Sound blockhouse. The Gales' Creek station was then burned by the enemy. Our force was quickly followed up by the rebels to the block-house, where was stationed a company of the Ninth Vermont Volunteers, and after a brisk fight of about half an hour with artillery and infantry, the block-house was carried by assault, its garrison falling back toward Morehead City.

The rebels then advanced quickly upon Newport Barracks, throwing their right flank across the railroad to prevent a retreat. The Ninth Vermont Volunteers, under command of Captain Kelley, stationed at the barracks, met their advancing columns with volleys of musketry, and continued fighting and gradually retiring toward the barracks. The engagement lasted over an hour, our men holding their position, and it was not until there was great danger of all retreat being cut off that the order to abandon the place was given. All public stores were burned to prevent falling into the enemy's hands.

The two companies, Mix's new cavalry, did good service and were continually harassing the enemy at different points. Lieutenant Budlong deserves especial mention for his bravery upon several occasions.

Company D, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, garrisoning the fort at Newport Barracks, rendered but little assistance as a company, having failed to properly work their guns; a few, however, joined the Ninth Vermont and manned a gun under Lieutenant Viele, of the Ninth. This probably was owing to the absence of their commanding officer, Captain Conwell, who left his command on the morning of the 2d instant and never returned, and to the inexperience of the lieutenants in charge.

The forces at Newport retired about 6 p. m. across the railroad

and county bridges toward Newport village. The fort at the village was garrisoned by a detachment of the Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, under Lieutenant Foley, who, without firing a single shot, spiked his guns and had his company drawn up outside of the fort, before the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel Barney with the balance of his command. Finding it impossible to hold this position in the presence of such an overwhelming force, Colonel Barney retired under cover of the darkness in the direction of Beaufort. One of the guns in the fort at the barracks was brought away, another stuck in the mud and was abandoned, and the balance were rendered unserviceable.

As soon as I learned of the approach of the enemy in my front, I went to Newport Barracks per train, to give directions in reference to the defense of that place. I immediately withdrew the detachment at Kennedy's Mill to prevent their capture, and directed that the guns in the two forts should be used as long as possible, and if the abandonment of the fort was compelled, that the guns should be brought out and thrown into Newport River; or if this were impossible they should be spiked and the wheels and carriages broken. They were to be saved, if at all possible, even should cavalry horses be used to drag them.

I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Barney, commanding officer of the post, to fight as long as possible, and if driven back to do so slowly, falling back on Morehead City, but if cut off in that direction, to fall back upon Newport village and there make a stand upon opposite bank of the river, destroying the bridges in his front. If driven from there he would retreat to Beaufort.

I took all the sick and part of the quartermaster's stores on board the train to Morehead City, leaving directions that at the last extremity, to prevent falling into the enemy's hands, all public stores then remaining should be burnt.

As soon as the rebels had appeared in front of my lines I advanced all of the troops from Morehead City, consisting of about 200 recruits, under command of Lieutenants Ilsley and Connelly, of my staff, all the line officers being absent with their regiment at New Berne; a detachment of the Second North Carolina Volunteers, under command of Capt. C. H. Foster (they having been withdrawn from Beaufort), and a 12-pounder Wiard and a 24-pounder howitzer, under command of Capt. C. B. Newton, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, to a position about 3 miles above Carolina City, throwing out my pickets in the direction of Bogue Sound block-house and the barracks. I threw up rifle-pits in rear of the large swamp, and blockaded all the different avenues of approach. Finding it would take every man to form a picket-line, and being so vastly outnumbered by the enemy, my only recourse was to fall back on my intrenched position, which I did about midnight of the 2d instant.

During the night of the 2d instant I was busily engaged in strengthening my position at Morehead City, and by the morning had it so strongly intrenched as to be secure against attack. All the roads leading to Morehead were well blockaded. A barricade was formed across the railroad track, rifle-pits were thrown up, and with the gun-boat Nansemond, which Commander Dove had kindly furnished, upon our left flank and a boat howitzer on our right, we felt secure. The garrison of Newport arrived at Beaufort on the morning of the 3d instant, and I immediately ordered them to Morehead to man the intrenched line, placing Lieutenant-Colonel Barney in com-

mand of the post. My cavalry scouted out during the day, and found the enemy at the railroad crossing, about 6 miles from Morehead.

During the 4th instant everything remained quiet, the enemy being about 5 miles from Morehead, the body of their troops being at the barracks. A small force of cavalry appeared on my right on Crab Point. Two companies were sent to that point to prevent the enemy from taking position there.

On the 5th instant Colonel Ripley, Ninth Vermont Volunteers, arrived from Fortress Monroe and took command of his regiment. The Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, Colonel Dutton commanding, also arrived, and I immediately advanced upon Newport Barracks with the Twenty-first Connecticut, Ninth Vermont, and one piece of artillery. I arrived at the barracks about 6 p. m., and finding no enemy (they having left the barracks about 4.30 p. m.), sent out a reconnaissance under Captain Cummings, Mix's new cavalry, to ascertain the exact position of the enemy. He returned about 2 a. m. of the 6th instant, and reported the discovery of their campfires about 11 miles from the barracks.

While re-establishing my lines on the 6th instant the enemy's cavalry was reported about 5 miles from the barracks. I immediately started out with about 30 cavalry and two companies of infantry. I discovered a small force about 5 miles from the barracks, and charged upon them with the cavalry. We continued the charge, driving the rebels before us and directly into their camp, in which were about 350 cavalry and a section of artillery, under command of Colonel Jeffords, the rebels escaping by superiority of their horses. The enemy immediately opened on us with small-arms and artillery, and we retired in the direction of the barracks. Having no cavalry fit to operate, and no artillery whatever, I could not give battle to the enemy.

In this affair we lost 2 horses captured, the riders being dismounted in the charge, and the horses dashing into the enemy's camp; one of them belonging to my own orderly, the other being ridden by Lieutenant Ward, of General Palmer's staff. About 6 miles from Newport we recaptured 5 of our wounded.

On my return to the barracks I immediately established a strong picket-line, covering the barracks and the village, and disposed of the forces in such manner as to render them capable of making a good defense, if attacked. I then informed General Palmer by telegraph of the state of affairs, and appealed to him for a section of artillery and 100 cavalry to enable me to advance upon the enemy, and was by him directed to come to New Berne to consult upon future operations, and to place Colonel Dutton in command of the sub-district during my absence, which I did.

While in New Berne, on the morning of the 7th instant, I received a telegram from Colonel Dutton that Colonel Ripley had been driven out of the barracks and retreated toward Morehead. I returned to Morehead per steamer Ella May, bringing with me five companies One hundred and fifty-eighth New York State Volunteers, two 12-pounder howitzers, and one mountain howitzer. On my return to Morehead, on the 8th instant, I found the forces had retaken their former position at the barracks, they having retreated therefrom without any apparent cause, and only upon rumors and the reports of the approach of the enemy in that direction.

On the 9th instant I made a reconnaissance in force, with portions of the Ninth Vermont, Twenty-first Connecticut, and One hundred

and fifty-eighth New York and one section of artillery, and advanced to within a short distance of Cedar Point and other points on the White Oak River, and near Peletier's Mills, ascertaining that the rebels had all fallen back to and beyond Young's Cross-Roads, and that there were none in my front. During the reconnaissance we captured 2 rebel wounded, and retook 1 of our captured horses.

The post of Beaufort was, under the direction of Lieutenant Connelly, acting aide-de-camp, put in position to repel an attack, by throwing up rifle-pits, felling trees, blockading roads, &c., but no force of the enemy appeared in that direction. The posts of Croatan and Havelock were withdrawn to New Berne, by order of General Palmer, to prevent their capture, it being impossible for them to join the forces at Newport.

Our whole loss amounts to 4 killed, 11 wounded, and 62 missing; numbers of the missing known to be wounded. The loss of the rebels must exceed our own in killed and wounded. Since the beginning of operations 7 deserters have come within our lines.

Much credit is due Lieut. Col. V. G. Barney, post commander at Newport, and Captain Kelley, commanding Ninth Vermont Volunteers, for the faithful manner in which they executed my orders, they only being prevented from carrying them out to the letter by the withdrawal of Lieutenant Foley from the fort at Newport village. I received the most hearty co-operation from Commander Dove, U. S. Navy, who placed at my disposal the gun-boats Nansemond, Mercedita, and Emma, the officers of which evinced the utmost cheerfulness in the execution of my requests.

My thanks are due to Capt. C. H. Foster, Second North Carolina Volunteers, and Capt. C. B. Newton, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, and their commands, for the valuable services they rendered in completing the defenses of Morehead and the cheerful execution of all duties assigned to them.

It is with pleasure that I most respectfully recommend to the most favorable consideration of the major-general commanding, Lieut. S. A. Ilsley, acting assistant adjutant-general, Lieut. J. C. Gerard, acting assistant quartermaster, Lieut. T. F. King, jr., acting assistant inspector-general, and Lieut. H. M. Connelly, acting aide-de-camp, of my staff, for their indefatigable efforts in assisting me, both as staff and commanding officers, during the operations in my subdistrict. All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. B. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MOREHEAD, *February* 2, 1864.

The enemy have taken Gales' Creek and Bogue Sound block-house. I have just come from the front. I am confident in my ability to hold the Morehead line about 10 miles above Carolina City. The enemy is in strong force; the infantry is estimated about 2,000, with three pieces of artillery and a strong force of cavalry. Before the capture of the above post we repulsed them several times.* I am

* Some illegible words here follow.

afraid they will be captured. I have moved my sick to Morehead from Newport. I will use everything available to repulse them. I am moving all my little force, even convalescents, to the front. I am confident of success.

J. JOURDAN.

General PALMER.

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No. 9.

*Reports of Lieut. Col. Valentine G. Barney, Ninth Vermont Infantry.*

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., *February* 5, 1864.

SIR: I have to report that on the morning of the 2d February, 1864, the enemy, about 1,700 strong, made an advance on our position at Newport Barracks, first attacking our outposts at Gales' Creek and Bogue Sound block-house, where Companies H and B were stationed, and then our force at the barracks. Our force there was small, and was composed nearly of the new recruits you lately sent us, who had received their arms the same morning. Our men fought finely, and, although opposed by four times their number, held the position until nearly dark, when we were obliged to fall back across the bridges and burn them to prevent capture. We then fell back by way of Beaufort to this place.

About 75 of our men are now missing, but we expect that nearly half the number will turn up soon, having been cut off from the main body. It is impossible to give you now anything like a correct list of our missing. Lieutenant Bolton, Company C, is wounded through the shoulder (not dangerous); Lieutenant Holman, Company G, is missing (probably captured). I will send you a list in a day or two of all missing men. Captain Kelley, Company B, was in command of the regiment. I commanded the post, Colonel Ripley being absent at the time.

The Twenty-first Connecticut Regiment have just arrived; also Colonel Ripley, and we intend an advance to-day to our old post. I write you in great haste.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

V. G. BARNEY,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Ninth Vermont.*

P. T. WASHBURN,
*Adjutant and Inspector General of Vermont.*

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HEADQUARTERS NINTH VERMONT VOLUNTEERS,
*Newport Barracks, N. C., February* 12, 1864.

SIR: I inclose a list * of the killed, wounded, and missing of this regiment in the late engagement at this place. In my report of last week I gave the account as near as possible at that time. Since then we have been almost constantly on the move and perfectly unsettled. This is the first opportunity I have had to furnish you with

* Official records show 3 men killed, 1 officer and 12 men wounded, and 1 officer and 50 men missing.

any additional accounts, and they will vary somewhat from my first. The enemy, who advanced upon us at this place, were about 2,500 strong, accompanied by fourteen pieces of artillery and 400 cavalry. They came with the expectation of capturing the whole regiment, and felt very much disappointed at the result and admitted their expedition a failure. You will see by my list that many of our men are missing. It is supposed that the most of them are prisoners. They were mostly new recruits, and on being cut off from the rest and unacquainted with the country were as apt to run into the enemy's lines as ours.

On our return to this place our dead were found on the field where they fell. Their clothing and everything valuable had been taken off from them. It is possible that more dead may be found through the woods and swamp, where much fighting was done. The enemy lost in killed and wounded much more heavily then we did. One captain and 2 lieutenants were killed ; also 15 of their men, and as many as 30 wounded.

We are again at our old post. Our men are in good spirits. They have been since the fight without blankets, and many without overcoats. The weather, though, has been very pleasant, and they have not suffered very severely. We got the A tents to-day; also clothing. The last lot of recruits, 70 in number, arrived here on the 10th instant. They found rather a dubious-looking camp, but feel in good spirits, and seem to enjoy the bivouac and hard bread finely.

I am assured that the Ninth Vermont has done itself great credit in the late engagement.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

V. G. BARNEY,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Ninth Vermont.*

P. T. WASHBURN,
*Adjutant and Inspector General of Vermont.*

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No. 10.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding at Wilmington, N. C.*

FEBRUARY 4, 1864.

On the 2d instant General Martin, with the Seventeenth and Forty-second North Carolina troops and Colonel Jackson's command from Kenansville, broke the railroad at Sheppardsville, driving the enemy from their works at Newport Barracks and across Newport River. Dispatch is dated Newport Barracks. Have not heard a word from Kinston.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

General COOPER.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, February* 4, 1864.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I inclose the only dispatch* or information I have received of Pickett's movements. They came from Richmond, the main line from Goldsborough being down. I got your dispatches

* Not found.

4 and 5, and congratulate you on your success. So far, provided you hold the communication from Morehead City, you have done all and more than General Lee directed. It might have been well if you could have captured and burned Morehead with the pier there. If you have not moved as directed, or rather suggested, in my dispatch of this morning, I would reiterate the advice therein given—to move so as to secure your rear and approach nearer to cooperate with the main attack. All this, of course, subject to your better knowledge of roads and information of the enemy's movements.

From Pickett's dispatch to General Cooper I do not know how far his success extends or what he has done toward the main object. He appears, however, to have beaten the enemy. I would keep as bold a front as possible, and whenever you can, destroy culverts and the tanks of the railroad. That was the object of your expedition. I don't think the enemy will re-enforce Morehead from New Berne nor threaten your rear, but they may do so from sea. You must therefore keep a good lookout, and if certain they are re-enforced too heavily for you to manage, move back before them, taking your line either toward Kenansville or by the sound, as most expedient. All this, however, will depend entirely on the information you receive from Pickett and his operations and from the enemy. I am not afraid of their hurting you. Keep me advised.

Very truly, yours,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

Brig. Gen. J. G. MARTIN,
*Commanding in Front.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Wilmington, February* 6, 1864.

GENERAL: I inclose for your information the report* of Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffords, of Fifth South Carolina Cavalry, relative to his portion of the late movements near New Berne. It is addressed to Captain Elliott, assistant adjutant-general to Brigadier-General Martin, who commanded the expedition from this place, and is forwarded by him to me.

As I telegraphed you on the 2d instant, General Martin was completely successful, driving the enemy from strong positions fortified, destroying their barracks and the railroad bridge at Newport River, and forcing the enemy with considerable loss to retreat to Beaufort. On the night of the 2d he received a dispatch from General Barton that his expedition had failed and he would join the main attack, followed by another that General Pickett was successful and wished General Martin to act and hold the railroad. This had been already done. Finally, on the 4th, the day of Colonel Jeffords' reconnaissance, General Martin was informed that the troops were withdrawn to Kinston.

The report of Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffords is interesting, as showing the great demoralization of the enemy.

I will send you as soon as received General Martin's report in detail. He deserves great credit for the skillful and completely suc-

* See inclosure No. 16 to Martin's report, p. 91.

cessful manner in which he performed his work, the desire of General Lee's confidential note of January 20 to me being thoroughly carried out by himself and his brave troops.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond.*

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No. 11.

*Report of Brig. Gen. James G. Martin, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS,
*Wilmington, February* 16, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: I forward the report of the operations of General Martin against the enemy's communications in the recent attempt upon New Berne. General Martin and his force fully accomplished their object and deserve much credit for gallant and skillful conduct. In my opinion he could have prevented re-enforcements from reaching the enemy by the way of the Neuse.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS MARTIN'S BRIGADE,
*Wilmington, N. C., February* 12, 1864.

MAJOR: To execute General Lee's instructions to Major-General Whiting by letter of January 20 (copy marked No. 1), and after a short interview with Brigadier-General Hoke at Goldsborough on the subject of this letter, I left this city on Thursday, January 28, by direction of General Whiting, with parts of the Seventeenth and Forty-second Regiments North Carolina troops. The next day the command was increased by a company of cavalry (Captain Harlan's), a battery of six guns under Captain Paris, two companies of the Seventeenth who were on picket at Topsail, and the remainder of the Forty-second, which had been at work on the fortifications at Virginia Creek.

Dispatch (copy marked No. 2) was sent that evening to General Barton. Reached Jacksonville on Saturday; crossed the wagons and artillery over the river in a single flat during the afternoon and night, and moved next morning to White Oak River. At this point Colonel Jackson, with the remaining four companies of the Seventeenth, one battery of artillery, and parts of three companies of cavalry, joined the command. Pickets were sent over White Oak at once to arrest every person moving about, and the same orders given on this side. Couriers were also sent to General Barton. Dispatch marked No. 3 was received from him by return courier. Captain Starke, acting brigade inspector, was at once set to work with a strong party to bridge the river. This work required nearly the whole night. Crossed the bridge early next morning and sent dispatch

(copy marked No. 4) to General Barton. Before night marched halfway to Newport Barracks. During the day caught a deserter from the enemy and derived from him valuable information of the position, strength, and condition of the enemy, on which I acted and all of which was true. I am of opinion this man should be treated differently from the other prisoners.

It rained this (Monday) night, and fearing the condition of the roads, the transportation that could be spared was sent back over White Oak.

Early next morning, still raining, the command moved in the following order: Colonel Jackson commanding the advance, composed of all the cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffords; four pieces of artillery, Ellis' battery, of Moore's battalion, the major also with it; two companies of the Seventeenth and one of the Forty-second, then the Seventeenth, under Lieutenant-Colonel Lamb, the Forty-second, under Colonel Brown, and Paris' battery, followed by the train and rear guard.

About 12 o'clock the advance came on the enemy's pickets and immediately charged them over a most dreadful piece of road, killing and capturing, I believe, the whole picket. In this charge Lieutenant Muse, of Captain Harris' company (cavalry), was killed just as he was in the act of striking his enemy. His blow fell, wounding the enemy, apparently, after he had been himself killed. Moved steadily and quickly forward and soon came to the first block-house, which was hurriedly left by the enemy after a few discharges from our artillery. About 4 miles farther came to the second block-house, at the junction of the main sound road to Morehead City and the road to Newport Barracks (distant about 4 miles). In this block-house was a piece of artillery and the enemy indicated an intention to hold it. The artillery of the advance had already opened fire upon it when I came up. A company of the Seventeenth, well instructed as skirmishers, was at once thrown forward under the fire of our artillery, with orders to take it if practicable. Captain Biggs' company was designated for this attack. Lieutenant Hassell, acting brigade ordnance officer, belonging to this company, asked and received permission to join it for this service. When within about 200 yards Captain Biggs charged the work with such energy that after a few discharges the enemy fled in disorder. After a short delay moved off on the road to Newport Barracks. Advancing about 2 miles, as we emerged from a thick wood to a prairie and swamp the enemy opened on us with artillery. He had formed line on rising ground, his front without trees, then a swamp, and then another unwooded field. In this second opening the Seventeenth and Forty-second formed line on the right and left of the road, Colonel Jackson's infantry still farther to the left, and the cavalry in reserve. Two companies from each regiment were thrown forward as skirmishers. The artillery was ordered to move forward on the road and use their guns as best they could. As soon as these arrangements were made the whole command advanced and a little later the order was given to charge the enemy. He broke and fled in disorder after a few rounds, and passing by the barracks, firing the store-houses and stables with some horses tied in them, crossed Newport River, tearing up and setting fire to the county and railroad bridges. The fire on the railroad bridge was extinguished, but later in the evening I judged it best to burn it. It was now too dark to follow the enemy.

In this fight Captain Leith, of the Seventeenth, a brave and efficient officer, was mortally wounded while commanding his company as skirmishers; also 5 privates killed or mortally wounded and 14 less severely wounded.

About 8 o'clock the troops were ordered into camp, and to be ready to move at daylight in the morning. As soon as possible General Whiting was informed of our success by dispatch (copy marked No. 5). By the same courier a dispatch (copy marked No. 6) was sent to General Barton.

At 2.30 o'clock on the morning of the 3d a dispatch (copy marked No. 7) was received from General Barton; two hours later another (copy marked No. 8). In consequence of this last it was determined to hold the railroad where the command was, at the junction of the county roads from Beaufort and Morehead City.

A detachment of cavalry, under Colonel Jackson, was sent toward Morehead City early on the morning of the 3d, and another, under Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffords, toward New Berne. Smaller ones were also sent on other roads. Dispatch (copy marked No. 9) was sent to General Barton. On the return of Colonel Jackson he reported the road so blocked up with trees as to be impassable to cavalry. An infantry party was then ordered to Morehead City, but before reaching it was recalled on account of General Barton's dispatches (copies marked Nos. 10 and 11).

Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffords made his reconnaissance to within 1½ miles of New Berne with an energy and soundness of judgment worthy of high commendation (see copies of his reports marked Nos. 12 to 16). Copies were sent at the time to Generals Whiting and Barton.

The results of this expedition are 4 heavy dirt forts captured, 3 block-houses, with 1 flag, 10 pieces of artillery, 20 barrels of powder, several hundred small-arms, 200 boxes fixed ammunition for artillery, a considerable quantity of forage and other stores, 1,000 barrels of turpentine belonging to the United States, the quarters, stables, store-houses, called Newport Barracks, for 1,000 infantry, two companies of cavalry, and one of artillery; 3 railroad bridges, some trestle-work, some of the track at Croatan, and 2 large county bridges, all burnt or destroyed except one valuable piece of artillery brought away. About 30 horses and 2 wagons were also brought off and the telegraph wire was cut. The men saved from the burning buildings many overcoats, blankets, and other articles of clothing. My officers report about 20 of the enemy killed and from 40 to 50 wounded. One lieutenant and 73 men were brought to this city prisoners, and 4 men paroled, who were so badly wounded as to be unable to bear the journey; also 6 negroes brought here.

During the night of the 2d there was a large fire at Morehead City, since reported to be the burning of the enemy's stores at that place. About 8 o'clock on the morning of the 4th instant we left Newport Barracks on our return, and the troops reached this city on the 10th.

I cannot close this report without expressing my gratification at the gallant behavior of the troops during the fight and their patient endurance on a march of nearly 240 miles over very heavy roads.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. MARTIN,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. J. H. HILL,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Cape Fear.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS, *January* 20, 1864.

[Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING:]

GENERAL: An attack on New Berne is contemplated by the forces under command of General Pickett. The time will be between 25th and 30th instant. I request you will give all the assistance in your power, threatening simultaneously with your troops north of the Cape Fear the enemy's positions, so as to prevent their re-enforcing New Berne. General Pickett will telegraph you the day, by which you will know what is meant. Commit nothing to the telegraph on the subject. Keep the matter secret.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS MARTIN'S BRIGADE,
*Thirty-four miles from Wilmington, Jan.* 29, 1864—4 p. m.

General BARTON,
*Commanding Troops, Kinston, N. C.:*

GENERAL: My command (two regiments and a battery) will be here to-night and at Jacksonville, 19 miles hence, about noon to-morrow. Thence I shall move to White Oak (Smith's Mill), where I hope to receive some information or directions as to my further movements, especially as to time. Please let me hear something.

Very, respectfully,

J. G. MARTIN,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

MILL CREEK, 12 MILES FROM NEW BERNE,
*January* 31, 1864.

[Brig. Gen. J. G. MARTIN:]

GENERAL: All goes smoothly with us. You will hear us at work in the morning. I am afraid you will not reach the point designated by P[ickett] at the time we expected; nevertheless, push on and reach there as quickly as possible. I will keep you advised.

S. M. B.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

SMITH'S MILL, WHITE OAK CREEK,
*February* 1, 1864—8 a. m.

General BARTON,
*Mill Creek:*

GENERAL: My artillery is now crossing the bridge I had made last night. If for any reason you fall back inform me promptly, as my rear is entirely uncovered except by your force. I leave couriers on the road. It is 40 miles hence to Sheppardsville. Please keep me informed. I have not yet heard your guns.

Yours, respectfully,

J. G. MARTIN,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 5.]

NEWPORT BARRACKS, N. C., *February* 2, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General WHITING, *Commanding, Wilmington:*

GENERAL: After several slight skirmishes, beginning about 12 o'clock to-day, 9 miles from this point, we had quite a serious engagement from 4 to 6 o'clock. Terminated by driving the enemy over Newport River. They burnt their barracks and most of their stores. Our loss is not very severe, though I am unable to say what it is. Lieutenant Muse, of Captain Harris' company of cavalry, was killed, and Captain Leith, of the Seventeenth, supposed to be mortally wounded. We have some prisoners, but most of the enemy escaped. The fort at this place is quite strong. On account of my entire ignorance of the movements about New Berne I felt unwilling to risk the safety of my command, and so ordered the bridge (railroad) to be burnt. The county bridge, at the request of Colonel Jackson, I have left for the present. There are now only a few organized commands on this point of land between Newport River and the sound. I shall send early in the morning to Morehead City and occupy it. I am very much embarrassed to know what to do on account of my entire ignorance of the state of affairs at New Berne. I have heard from General Barton only once, of which I wrote to you before. Lieutenant Fairly has been of very great service to me.

I am, general, yours, respectfully,

J. G. MARTIN,
*Brigadier-General.*

Since writing the above the information I have received leads me to believe I ought to fall back unless I hear from General Lee.

[Inclosure No. 6.]

NEWPORT BARRACKS, N. C.,
*February* 2, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General BARTON, or
GENERAL COMMANDING AROUND NEW BERNE:

GENERAL: We drove the enemy from this place just at dusk this evening. I am at a loss to know what to do now, as I have heard nothing from you or from New Berne. In this state of my information I deem it best to burn the railroad bridge. Please ask General Lee or General Pickett to give me some instructions at once. You know my rear is all exposed to an attack from New Berne the moment you leave it open. Please let me hear from you or the general in command of the forces around New Berne.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. MARTIN,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 7.]

(Received Newport Barracks, 2.30 a. m., February 3.)

[Brig. Gen. J. G. MARTIN:]

GENERAL: My part of the expedition has failed; has accomplished very little, and I now leave to join main body. There is, therefore, no force between you and New Berne. I am disappointed in not hearing from you to-day. Will send your other courier from Pollocksville. Everything has gone well across the Trent.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

S. M. B.

[Inclosure No. 8.]

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 2, 1864—5 p. m.
(Received Newport Barracks, 4.30 a. m., 3d.)

Brigadier-General MARTIN:

GENERAL: Pickett has had good luck. His dispatch directs that you cut and hold the railroad.

Very respectfully,

S. M. BARTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 9.]

NEWPORT BARRACKS, N. C.,
*February* 3, 1864—10.30 a. m

General BARTON, or
COMMANDING GENERAL IN FRONT OF NEW BERNE:

GENERAL: I have received your dispatch of 5 p. m. yesterday, telling me General Pickett wishes me to cut and hold the railroad. I informed you by courier last night that I had taken this place and burnt the railroad bridge. I should have left this morning on my return but for your last dispatch. My situation here is very precarious if the enemy should throw re-enforcements into Morehead City. I have sent out scouting parties in every direction this morning. From my information I am hardly able to take Morehead City, and a failure would injure me more than not making the attempt. Please keep me informed at least once a day of the state of affairs. You did not say in this dispatch whether you were still to join the main attack and thus leave my rear exposed. In one received two hours before, without hour, day, or place being named, you had said you were to join the main attack.

Yours, respectfully,

J. G. MARTIN,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 10.]

HEADQUARTERS, *Kinston, N. C., Feb.* 3, 1864—6 a. m.
(Received Newport Barracks, 6.30 p. m., 3d.)

Brig. Gen. J. G. MARTIN:

Fall back. All the troops are withdrawn. I do not know what it means.

Very respectfully,

S. M. BARTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 11.]

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 3, 1864—10.15 a. m.
(Received Newport Barracks, 7 p. m., 3d.)

General J. G. MARTIN:

Fall back at once. The troops have been withdrawn from around New Berne. I do not know what it means.

S. M. BARTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 12.]

HAVELOCK, *February* 3, 1864—12 m.

General MARTIN,
*Commanding:*

GENERAL: I have reached this point. The fort has been deserted. One brass 6-pounder rifled gun spiked. The fort is now being burned with quarters. The enemy (one company artillery) left this morning in direction of Croatan, where, from best information I can get, the enemy have a redoubt fort with one or two guns. I shall move forward immediately and see whether Croatan is occupied or not. It is 6 miles from this point. I met Hunter this morning (Confederate scout, so Dickinson says), and he informed me a terrific fight was going on from day-dawn to about 9 o'clock. He also says that a guide was sent General Barton yesterday, and that he is now in between Croatan and New Berne. I shall forward you accurate information if it is possible to be obtained. A gentleman just brought in by my scouts reports Croatan deserted; troops going toward New Berne. He says he saw a dispatch from New Berne last night to commanding officer at Croatan, stating unless they could get re-enforcements by this railroad last night they would be obliged to surrender town this morning. I am fully impressed the city is now in our possession.

Respectfully,

R. J. JEFFORDS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel Cavalry.*

[Inclosure No. 13.]

HEAD OF BRICE'S CREEK,
*February* 3, 1864—5 o'clock.

General MARTIN,
*Commanding:*

GENERAL: I dispatched you from Havelock this day at 12 m. I then moved up to Croatan, which was evacuated; gun left in fort spiked. As I could get no definite information there from New Berne, I moved to this point, 5 miles from New Berne, where the Yankees have a block-house on main road from New Berne to Pollocksville. There is no living person here; all houses are vacant. A fight has occurred at block-house; horses lie dead around and the cannon is out on road. One matter I cannot understand is, that the bridge here is torn up and not put down, the road is much cut up, and many cavalry at least have gone toward New Berne. The citizens inform me two transports passed up this morning about 11 o'clock with troops. All has been quiet. I hear no firing, and I am still fully impressed New Berne has fallen. A sunset gun (I suppose) has this instant been fired. I will move cautiously and endeavor to procure accurate information by morning.

Very respectfully,

R. J. JEFFORDS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel Cavalry.*

[Inclosure No. 14.]

CROATAN, *February* 3, 1864—10 p. m.

[Brig. Gen. J. G. MARTIN:]

GENERAL: I dispatched you from Evans' Mill (head Brice's Creek) at 5 p. m. this day, from where I moved forward to within 1½ miles

of New Berne, passing the outposts of the enemy by a detour and going within 150 yards of the main picket, from where I sent a file of men and brought a citizen from within their lines, from whom I obtained following information, which from being confirmed by 3 subsequent citizens I regard pretty accurate, viz: That General Pickett had carried Deep Gully, capturing 1,500 troops, 1 light battery, and all the earthworks on that line of defense.

To-day at 12 o'clock our forces were planting their siege guns one-half mile in front of Fort Totten, which stands on outline of city. The Yankees were playing upon them, but the guns were being brought up. The gun-boats or forts on this side of Trent were playing on our forces up the Trent on both sides of river. From all I have learned I can hear no information respecting General Barton. I don't think he has attacked forts on this side of Trent. He doubtless reduced fort at Evans' Mill, and I imagine from bridge being up he has fallen back, probably crossing the Trent to support center. At least the three forts on this side of Trent have not been attacked, so far as I can learn, and their main picket to-night was about two companies from 1 to 1¼ miles out.

Colonel Wood has burnt one of their gun-boats. They now have three there. They covered road with their fire, leading from Sheppardsville to New Berne, as if apprehensive of an advance this afternoon and evening. They have been re-enforced by two transports, not over 600 to 800 men. Their force, the highest estimate, is 5,000 to 6,000. The greatest alarm is prevailing, and the citizens say 10,000 negroes have gone into New Berne from all this country. As I was unable to procure any forage, I had to fall back to this point to-night to get some. I have strong pickets on both sides of me, and will bivouac for night. I shall move around to-morrow, and endeavor to furnish promptest information. Should you desire otherwise a dispatch sent here can reach me.

I am, your most obedient servant,

R. J. JEFFORDS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel.*

[Inclosure No. 15.]

CROATAN, [*February* 4, 1864]—9 o'clock.

[Brig. Gen. J. G. MARTIN:]

GENERAL: Your dispatch this moment to hand. As the bridges across Brice's and Mill Creeks are torn up I shall return by way of Newport, and move immediately to rejoin you.

Respectfully,

R. J. JEFFORDS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel.*

[Inclosure No. 16.]

HUNTER'S CREEK, NEAR WHITE OAK RIVER,
*February* 4, 1864—9 p. m.

Captain ELLIOTT:

CAPTAIN: In obedience to your order, I left Croatan (7 or 8 miles from New Berne) at 9 a. m. this day, and reached this point, via Newport. On my route here I destroyed several road bridges, and burned railroad bridge and trestle at Havelock, 7 miles from Newport. The railroad track is also torn up about 100 yards near Croatan. Any troops landing at Morehead City must be detained several

days before reaching New Berne. The firing was commenced at New Berne at sunrise this morning, and kept up irregularly until I got out of hearing from wind, at about 11 o'clock. I heard from New Berne last night through a party who went in, and he says the forces are not over 3,000, with 600 or 800 re-enforcements landed yesterday a. m. That General Peck had telegraphed General Butler if re-enforcements were not sent promptly forward he could not hold city, and that Butler replied, hold on, a brigade would reach him between thirty and fifty hours. Up to 11 o'clock this morning they had not passed up the Neuse River. That the greatest panic prevails at New Berne. The city is crowded, and no transportation in way of shipping to take them away. The troops are very much demoralized. My movements last night within a mile of city on south side of Trent annoyed them much. I stated I was but the advanced guard to main body, &c. I cannot account why General Barton fell back. The bridge at Evans' Mill was torn up by Yankees, as all the planks, &c., are on side next to New Berne. They admit loss of 1,500 men killed, wounded, and captured. I am fully impressed determination south of Trent would have carried the day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. J. JEFFORDS,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Fifth South Carolina Cavalry.*

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No. 12.

*Report of Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett, C. S. Army, commanding Department of North Carolina.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Petersburg, Va., February* 15, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a communication, the copy of which I have forwarded to the Adjutant-General.

I have but little doubt that had Barton pushed on we might have been successful. I could have only brought four rifled guns into action. Two 10-pounder Parrotts (new guns) were disabled while firing on their iron-clads, the first fire disabling the carriages. I am sorry nothing more was done, but the surprise being over, and no co-operation,* it would have been a desperate matter to attempt an attack in front.

I hope, general, you will understand my reasons for the withdrawal, and remain, as ever, with high respect, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*February* 15, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions received from General Lee under date of January 20, 1864, the expedition left Kinston as follows:

General Barton, with his own brigade and that of Kemper, and three regiments of Ransom's, eight rifled pieces, six Napoleons, and

*See Lee to Pickett and Cooper, February 18, Correspondence, &c., pp. 1186, 1187.

600 cavalry, on the morning of the 30th ultimo to cross the Trent and take the works in front of New Berne in reverse, and to prevent the enemy being re-enforced by land or water.

Later in the day I sent off the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Virginia to report to Colonel Dearing, on the north side of the Neuse River. With this, three pieces of artillery, Whitford's regiment, and 300 cavalry he was to have attacked, if it was practicable, Fort Anderson, Barrington's Ferry.

Commander Wood, of the Navy, with his boat party, left on the 31st ultimo, and I, with Hoke's brigade, three regiments of Corse's and two of Clingman's brigade, five rifled pieces, and five Napoleons, and 30 cavalry, started on the evening of the 30th ultimo. The attack was to have been made simultaneously by the different parties on Monday morning. Barton with his cavalry was to have cut the railroad and cross Brice's Creek, taking the forts on the bank of the Neuse (which opened to the water), and pass across the railroad bridge, effectually, should he only succeed in the first, cutting off re-enforcements. Dearing, by taking Fort Anderson, would have a direct fire upon the town and enfilading fire on the works in front of it. Commander Wood, having secured the gun-boats, would co-operate, and I, with the party under my command, create a diversion, draw off the enemy, and if the chance offered go in the town.

Accordingly, on Monday morning at 1 o'clock I pushed forward General Hoke, who, upon his arrival at Batchelder's Creek, 9 miles from New Berne, was met in strong force by the enemy. Although they were evidently surprised, still the night being dark and the enemy posted in a strong position, and having destroyed the bridge, it was impracticable for General Hoke to force a passage till after daylight. This he did in most gallant style.

At this time the enemy were re-enforcing heavily by railroad, and trying to rake our lines with the guns on a steam iron-clad. They attempted to turn my right flank with these re-enforcements. I threw Corse forward to drive them in, which he did handsomely, and Clingman, with his two regiments, following General Hoke's. After effecting the crossing the enemy were hardly pursued, but having no cavalry, and the men much worn by the long night's march, and not having been allowed fires, we were unable to press our advantage as we would have done had there been fresh troops in hand; in fact, it was 3 o'clock before General Corse could come to the crossing of the Neuse road with the railroad, some 2½ miles from the town. There was, unfortunately, no co-operation, the other parties having failed to attack, and I found we were making the fight single-handed. Commander Wood went down the Neuse on the night of the 31st with his party, but did not find the gun-boats. Dearing found Fort Anderson too strong to attack. Barton's cavalry failed to cut the railroad and telegraph to Morehead City, nor was it ever done by his party. This was afterward done by General Martin, but no communication was received of this fact from General Barton till some time after we moved back. General Barton communicated with me by courier on Tuesday morning, saying he found the work laid out for him impracticable. This not being satisfactory to me, I sent Captain Bright, my aide-de-camp, across the Trent to communicate with him in person. This was accomplished by Captain Bright at a good deal of risk. General Barton informed him that he had been entirely misinformed as to the strength of the place, and that he pronounced the works as too strong to attack, and

that he had made no advance and did not intend to, and that he had sent out twice his cavalry to cut the railroad and they returned without having accomplished it. Captain Bright then, by my direction, ordered him to join me. General Barton said he would try to cross at Pollocksville, but would be unable to cross that night (the 2d), and expressed some doubt as to whether he could cross at all at that point. Should he fail, then he would be compelled to go much higher up the river. Thus the earliest possible moment at which he could have joined me would have been the evening of the 3d instant. I could not then have attacked before the 4th instant. General Barton afterward informed me verbally that he could positively have done nothing on his side of the river. General Barton had orders from me, in case he found it impracticable to perform his part of the work, which was the most important, to at once cross to me and let me try a *coup de main*. I could, however, hear nothing from him for some time, and when I did it was the unsatisfactory note above alluded to.

On the night of the 1st instant Commander Wood gallantly attacked and took the six-gun steamer Underwriter, but was compelled to burn her, thus losing us her invaluable services. The enemy having had ample time to re-enforce both by water and railroad, the trains running in constantly night and day from Morehead City, and in fact the whole plan by which the place was to be reduced having failed, I deemed it prudent, after consultation with my officers, to withdraw, which we did at our leisure.

The result may be summed up as follows, viz: Killed and wounded, about 100; captured, 13 officers, 284 privates, 14 negroes, 2 rifled pieces and caissons, 300 stands of small-arms, 4 ambulances, 3 wagons, 103 animals, a quantity of clothing, camp and garrison equipage, and 2 flags. Commander Wood, C. S. Navy, captured and destroyed U. S. gun-boat Underwriter. Our loss about 45 killed and wounded. A correct list will be forwarded.

I found the ground in my front swept by half a dozen forts, one of them mounting seven rifled guns, with which they fired at pleasure over and into our line of battle. Had I have had the whole force in hand I have but little doubt that we could have gone in easily, taking the place by surprise. I would not advise a movement against New Berne or Washington again till the iron-clads are done. In mean time, having received dispatches that the enemy were in force at Suffolk and advancing on Blackwater, I deemed it prudent to send General Clingman back to Petersburg.

I have received as yet no written report from General Barton, but am of the opinion that he should have advanced at the same time that I did. Had he have done so, the enemy being fully employed by me, he could have probably carried out this part of the plan. At any rate, it was worth the trial, and I respectfully ask an investigation of his want of co-operation. From all that I could learn no infantry were over on that side of the town. The present operation I was afraid of from the first, as there were too many contingencies. I should have wished more concentration, but still hope the effect produced by the expedition may prove beneficial.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

No. 13.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S BRIGADE,
*Kinston, N. C., February* 8, 1864.

MAJOR: In obedience to orders, I reported to Major-General Pickett with letters to him from the commanding general on Friday, January 22, at Petersburg, and there awaited the arrival of my command, which was immediately forwarded to Gar sburg, near Weldon. I expected to find General Corse's at Petersburg, but learned it could not reach there before Wednesday, January 27, which delayed our movements from this point until Friday, the 29th. In the mean time the artillery was collected and placed upon cars, as if it was to be shipped to Richmond, and every piece supplied with a sufficient quantity of ammunition. The horses were sent to the country to recruit, and after getting several miles in the country were ordered to Wilmington, but were to stop at Wilson, N. C., for further orders. After making all the necessary arrangements at Petersburg I proceeded at once to Kinston, and finding the enemy had made no change returned to Weldon to give the shipment of my troops my personal attention.

Saturday (the 30th) being the day for the movement from Kinston, I on Friday forwarded to that point from Goldsborough all of Kemper's brigade and three regiments of Ransom's brigade from Weldon, together with six rifled pieces and cannoneers, which, with Barton's brigade (600 cavalry and six Napoleons, now at Kinston), composed the column which was to leave that point on Saturday morning and move down the Trent road as if upon New Berne; thence across Trent River and down the south bank across Brice's Creek to the rear of New Berne, under the command of Brigadier-General Barton. Two regiments of Corse's brigade were also forwarded to Kinston on Friday, which, with Whitford's battalion, now on duty on north bank of Neuse River below Kinston, formed the column, commanded by Colonel Dearing, which was to make demonstrations against Washington, or if he could surprise Fort Anderson was to go in. The remainder of Corse's brigade, two regiments of Clingman's brigade, the Fifty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, of Ransom's brigade, and my brigade, with four Napoleons, eight rifled pieces and cannoneers, arrived at Kinston during Saturday (the horses having been ordered from Wilson so as to arrive there at 12 o'clock on Saturday), which, being the column that was to the front of New Berne, moved at once upon the Dover road 5 miles from Kinston. On this night General Barton with his command was 15 miles from Kinston. Dearing was progressing finely and General Martin was en route from Wilmington toward Morehead City. Colonel Wood with his party arrived at Kinston Saturday night and proceeded down the river on Sunday.

On Sunday morning at 6 o'clock I, with my brigade at the head of the column, proceeded on the Dover road, arresting all persons who saw us, and directed the march so as to arrive at Stevens' Fork, a point 10 miles from New Berne and 2 miles from the outpost of the enemy, after dark, where we encamped without fires until 1 o'clock Monday morning, the 1st instant, at which time I moved forward and captured all the outposts, but not without being hailed and fired

upon. I moved down the road with all possible speed in order to reach Batchelder's Creek before the bridge could be taken up; but upon reaching the point found they had been alarmed by the firing of the pickets and had taken up the bridge.

Here I lost a number of men killed and wounded. The enemy at this point were strongly intrenched, and also had a block-house erected. To avoid the loss of men by storming, I threw some trees across the creek and crossed two regiments over, under command of Colonel Mercer, of the Twenty-first Georgia Regiment, with orders to move upon their flank and rear, while I would repair the bridge and cross over the remainder of the command. This was soon done and we were not long delayed. The enemy in the mean time had telegraphed for re-enforcements, who were about 2 miles distant, and arrived in time to form in the field in rear of the creek, artillery and infantry, but we soon drove them before us and completely routed them. They made my anticipated move, which was to throw troops by cars across the creek on the railroad, and came in our rear. This was what we wanted, and I moved with all possible speed a distance of 6 miles to strike the railroad and capture the train, but the enemy by telegraphic communications were apprised of our move, and returned the train loaded with troops just five minutes before I reached the road. It was my intention, had I gotten the train, to place my men upon it and go into New Berne. At this point my brigade was halted to meet any advance of the enemy from the town, while General Clingman was ordered across to the Trent road to prevent the return of the enemy from Deep Gully, and also to take all stragglers; but not knowing the country he failed to reach the road, which was extremely unfortunate, as during the evening at different times 500 infantry and 400 cavalry passed into the town panic-stricken, leaving their camps in wild confusion.

After General Corse came up to the railroad I moved my brigade within a mile to the front of the town to await the sound of Barton's guns from the opposite side of Trent River, when, much to my amazement, I saw two trains come into town from Morehead City, which proved clearly that Barton had not reached the point of destination. We remained in front of New Berne all day Tuesday waiting Barton's move, when, much to my disappointment, a dispatch was received from him stating that it was impossible for him to cross the creek. Being junior officer it does not become me to speak my thoughts of this move. On Wednesday we were ordered to return toward Batchelder's Creek, my brigade bringing up the rear.

Colonel Wood, on Sunday, found no boats in the river, but on Monday night most gallantly destroyed one of their first-class boats. Our surprise was most complete, and had all parties done their duty our hopes would have been more than realized. We now know the place was within our grasp, which was seen before leaving the front of the town. The enemy were thoroughly routed and demoralized.

I hope, major, the general will not think it was on account of statements made them concerning the position and strength of the enemy, for I assure you I found matters more favorable than I expected. The work could have been done, and still can be accomplished. I have recruited my brigade somewhat since I have been in the State and am sanguine about increasing it a good deal. My men are in good health and fine spirits. The troops do not look

upon our campaign as a failure, as the real object was not known to them and the capture of several rich camps pleased them wonderfully. General Pickett has no doubt reported the extent of our captures. The two 3-inch steel rifled pieces, with horses and equipments, was a valuable prize. I have but 95 carpenters and mechanics and 50 laborers from my command to work on the gun-boat, and they will soon have it completed. The material I have made arrangements to have brought forward, and by the 1st of March I hope to have both of the iron-clads ready for work, with which there can be no doubt of success.

In the mean time I will remain here, where I have already made my men comfortable, and push forward the work, and at the same time give the boat protection, which is absolutely necessary. Major Wharton, who has been acting as staff officer, will be able to answer all questions. There is no doubt of success in this undertaking, and we cannot and must not stop.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

R. F. HOKE,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 14.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Seth M. Barton, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS BARTON'S BRIGADE,
*February* 21, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a report of the part borne by the forces under my command in the recent advance against New Berne, which I wish forwarded to General Lee. The original has been sent to General Pickett, now at Goldsborough, N. C., and I desire to avoid the delay. Common rumor assigns me no enviable position in relation to this matter, and I know not how it may affect my superiors. I am anxious to remove as speedily as possible, or as a knowledge of the facts may accomplish, such unfavorable impression.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE, *February* 21, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part borne by the forces under my command in the recent advance against New Berne. These were Kemper's (Colonel Terry), Ransom's, my own brigade (Colonel Aylett), twelve pieces of artillery, twelve companies of cavalry.

On the 29th ultimo I detached Colonel Baker, with seven companies of his regiment (Third North Carolina Cavalry) and five companies of the Sixty-second Georgia Cavalry (Lieutenant-Colonel Kennedy), to strengthen the picket-line between Neuse and Trent Rivers and to cover all the roads and paths south and east of Kins-

ton, so as to prevent information reaching the enemy of any movement likely to create suspicion.

At daylight on the 30th, the troops commenced the movement, and bivouacked that night on the Trent after a march of 18 miles. The cavalry were advanced during the night and collected at Trenton.

On the 31st, Colonel Baker with his regiment was detached and ordered to move by a circuitous route, so as to reach the railroad at or near Croatan, 10 miles below New Berne, and having destroyed the track and telegraph line, to follow up the railroad and capture the enemy's picket at Evans' Mill, a station on Brice's Creek, 7 miles from New Berne. The artillery and infantry marched 21 miles and bivouacked 12 miles from New Berne. A dark and rainy night and a broken bridge prevented further progress till the moon rose—1.30 a. m. At this hour the column was again put in motion, but such were the difficulties of the road it was 8 a. m. before coming in sight of the enemy's lines. Several citizens of intelligence and known loyalty, who had been brought in during the night and in the morning, assured me that the fortifications on the south of the Trent were of the most formidable character, deemed by the enemy impregnable, and to be approached only by a bridge over Brice's Creek, a considerable stream, both deep and wide. A reconnaissance made by General Ransom, Colonel Aylett, and myself showed an open plain, varying from 1 mile to 2 miles in breadth, reaching to Brice's Creek; this very deep and about 80 yards wide, with marshy banks, the timber upon which had been cut down, a temporary bridge, on the east bank a block-house and breast-works, behind which a camp; at confluence of creek with Trent River, 1,000 yards distant, a field-work mounting ten guns; 300 yards east another work with eight guns; one-half or three-quarters of a mile east, near railroad bridge, and about 1 mile from Brice's Creek bridge, another very large work; south on Neuse River, about 2 miles from Brice's Creek bridge, a very large fort for land and river defense; a line of breast-works extending from this west to Brice's Creek, and terminating in a field work 1 mile above the bridge, other works of less importance covering the plain and connecting the forts; on north side of Trent, here 700 yards wide, two field-works commanding those on south side. The plan of operations required me to gain the south bank of Trent River, which was thought to be unprotected by fortifications, in order that my guns planted there should take in reverse the enemy's works between the rivers. Before starting upon the expedition I had made every exertion consistent with secrecy to arrive at accurate information as to this part of the enemy's position, having entertained doubts as to its not being fortified. Scouts and spies deemed reliable had been examined and reported that there were no works there. One in particular, as surveyor of the county and maker of the sketches and maps of the vicinity, upon which we relied, was sent to ascertain the facts. He returned three days before the movement and reported that his maps were correct; that there were no other fortifications than those abandoned by our troops at the capture of New Berne, and that these were constructed to meet an advance from the east and south. Brice's Creek also was represented by him not to exceed 90 feet in breadth. I was therefore unprepared to encounter obstacles so serious, and was forced to the conviction that they were insurmountable by any means at my disposal. Had it even been practicable to carry the fortifications on the south side of Trent, the possession of them would have been useless for the

accomplishment of our object. In this opinion the brigade commanders fully coincided.

It still remained practicable to make a detour by Evans' Mill, to cross Brice's Creek, but this route would have brought me in front of the same and other fortifications. It had been determined in case of a failure in the attack on the south that my forces should be withdrawn to join General Pickett and assault on the west. I was already, by the nearest practicable route, 24 miles from General Pickett. This detour by Evans', while it added nothing to our chances of success, added also 11 miles to the distance between us. Immediately on arriving in front of the works of New Berne I advanced my line of skirmishers close to Brice's Creek. The enemy opened and kept up a fire upon them during the whole of the 1st and 2d instant from the works and field batteries. The resistance offered to General Pickett's advance seemed to be so obstinate, as indicated by the long continuance of firing in the same direction, that I deemed it advisable to make a diversion in his favor, and accordingly opened with six rifles upon the block-house and contiguous forts. Having accomplished this object the pieces were withdrawn. The enemy seemed to have suffered much by this fire. He endeavored to throw a force across Brice's Creek, but it was driven back by the line of skirmishers.

Colonel Baker returned at midday on the 1st, having failed to effect a passage across the swamp, assigning the incompetency of his guide and the difficulties of his route, enhanced by the rain and the darkness of the night, as his reasons therefor. He again made the attempt on the night of the 1st, with like results and for the same reasons. On the night of the 2d, with a small party dismounted, he succeeded after very great labor in reaching the railroad and telegraph line, which he broke up.

Lieutenant-Colonel Kennedy, on the morning of the 1st, ambuscaded a body of the enemy's cavalry, killed 1, wounded several, and took 5 prisoners. On the 2d he drove in the enemy's pickets near Evans', killing 1 and taking 1 prisoner.

Immediately after reconnoitering the enemy's position I dispatched several messengers, scouts, and couriers to General Pickett, informing him of the posture of affairs and asking instructions, and also endeavoring to open communication with him by means of signals. I received no communication from him until the evening of the 2d, when he directed me to join him for the purpose of making an assault on his front. I at once proceeded to do so. Having reached Pollocksville, 12 miles on my route, he directed me to fall back to Kinston, which was accordingly done.

My casualties amount to 1 killed and 4 wounded, whose names will be forwarded as soon as received.

I have been delayed in forwarding this report awaiting those of the brigade commanders, only one of which, herewith inclosed, has yet reached me.

The press and common rumor have been kept busy in casting censure upon my course. If my superiors entertain similar opinions, I request that a court of inquiry be called to investigate the matter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. CHARLES PICKETT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
*February* 26, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded at the request of Brigadier-General Barton.

ARNOLD ELZEY,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *March* 3, 1864.

I think it due to General Barton that a court of inquiry be granted him.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

*ADDENDA.*

CAMP NEAR RICHMOND, *February* 29, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: The report of Major-General Pickett of the recent operations against New Berne contains the most injurious allegations against my course in conducting a part of the movement. Grave charges have also been made in the press and on the street. I have the honor to apply for a court of inquiry to investigate the matter, and that it be called speedily. I desire but few witnesses; they are convenient, not engaged, I believe, in any way to prevent their attendance. The events are recent. It is of incalculable importance to me that the imputations under which I am oppressed should be removed.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 54. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, Va., March* 5, 1864.

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XXIV. At the request of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton, a court of inquiry is hereby appointed to meet in this city on the 10th day of March, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the purpose of inquiring into the cause of the alleged failure of General Barton to co-operate with General G. E. Pickett in the late attack on New Berne, N. C. The court will report the facts in the case, together with its opinion thereon, to this office.

Detail of the court: Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey, Brig. Gen. J. R. Cooke; Maj. L. R. Page, assistant adjutant-general, judge advocate.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 15.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Clingman, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.*

HDQRS. CLINGMAN'S BRIGADE, *March* 17, 1864.

MAJOR: I have been prevented from complying with the order in the circular of the 21st ultimo from the fact that at the time it was received by me one of the regiments (the Eighth) was detached from my command, and it was not until this morning that I was able to obtain the statement of its casualties required. As I was compelled to give a full report of casualties, and state particularly whether I lost any prisoners, I was compelled to delay the report. In obedience to orders received during the previous night, on the morning of the 29th of January last I, with two regiments of my brigade (the Eighth, commanded by Col. H. M. Shaw, and the Fifty-first, by Col. H. McKethan), took the railroad trains for Kinston, N. C., at which place I arrived on the evening of the 30th, and advanced 5 miles toward New Berne.

In obedience to orders from Major-General Pickett, on the next day I followed with my command General Hoke's brigade, which was in the advance of the column, and rested for a part of the night about 12 miles this side of New Berne.

Having been ordered to follow immediately General Hoke's command and support him, on the morning of February 1, I moved forward with my command. Owing to the delay at Batchelder's Creek and to the darkness of the night, I, with the front of my command, passed the rear of General Hoke's, which was resting on the right side of the road. While in this position, within 200 or 300 yards of the creek, Colonel Shaw, who was with me at the head of his regiment, was instantly killed by one of the enemy's shots from the opposite side of the stream. This most unfortunate casualty rendered it necessary that Lieut. Col. J. M. Whitson should assume the command of the regiment. When at a late hour the passage of Batchelder's Creek had been effected, my command followed General Hoke's closely until we reached the point where the railroad was intersected by the road along which we had been advancing. I then received orders from Major-General Pickett to take the advance and move along the road, to be followed and supported by General Hoke's brigade. I was merely instructed to be particularly on my guard against any attack that might be made on my left from the direction of the town of New Berne, and General Hoke, having been previously acquainted with the localities there, was instructed to accompany me. After moving along the road until within nearly a mile of the town, my brigade merged to the right, keeping a direction nearly parallel to the line of the enemy's fortifications on the front of the town. The enemy were not encountered until we had advanced to a position within 600 or 800 yards of the Trent road. There they were in position with a regiment of cavalry and some field artillery, supported also by what appeared to be a small infantry force on their rear to the city. Their cavalry dashed forward to charge us, but were repulsed by my skirmishers without getting near enough to receive the volley of the brigade. Their field pieces then opened upon us, chiefly with spherical case-shot, but the men were directed to lie down, and there being a little swell in the ground in front, little or no injury was sustained by us. Their cavalry started forward several times, but whenever our line rose to its feet

they halted and retired. Thinking it advisable to attack the enemy and drive them within the fortifications of the town, and occupy the Trent road, I requested General Hoke to bring up his brigade to my support, it being then nearly a mile to the rear. He returned for that purpose, but after waiting nearly an hour without hearing from him, I sent two of my staff in succession to request that at least a section of artillery should be brought up to my assistance. While in this position the heavy batteries of Fort Totten opened on us. As this fortress, represented to be the strongest in the town of New Berne, and armed with not less than fifteen guns of large caliber, was not more than three-quarters of a mile distant, and had a complete enfilading fire on us, had their practice been good we must have sustained serious injury; in point of fact, however, their fire proved nearly harmless. After retaining this position for two or three hours, I was informed that the artillery could not be brought forward. General Hoke did not come up with his command, and I was soon after ordered to retire. As, in addition to the fire of the heavy batteries, we were confronted with the enemy's cavalry, field artillery, and infantry, I withdrew my command slowly by sections, and occupied successively such positions as would enable us to repel an attack if suddenly made by the cavalry.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to state that, though exposed on the flank and front to artillery fire and threatened constantly with attack by the enemy's cavalry and infantry, the troops under my command performed the movements ordered with as much coolness and precision as I ever saw them when on drill.

After retiring, I was instructed to occupy the ground in front of the railroad crossing, within the range of the enemy's fire from the forts, and on each night of our bivouacking there I sent forward for the distance of 1 mile strong detachments to guard against any attack that the enemy might make. In obedience to orders, these detachments were withdrawn about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 3d, and my brigade returned with the rest of the command to the vicinity of Kinston.

The casualties in my brigade were small in number, but the loss of Colonel Shaw is deeply to be deplored. Equally remarkable for his attention to all the duties of his position and for the coolness, self-possession, and courage in the field, I know no one filling a similar station whose loss would inflict a greater injury to the service than that sustained in his fall.

In conclusion, I have to state that there was not a single instance of desertion or straggling from my command during the expedition, and every officer and private seems to have acted creditably on all occasions.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

T. L. CLINGMAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major PICKETT.

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No. 16.

*Report of Col. John Taylor Wood, C. S. Army.*

RICHMOND, *February* 8, 1864.

GENERAL: I report to you the result of the late operations near New Berne.

Leaving Kinston at noon on the 31st ultimo, we reached New

Berne at 4 a. m.; passed down and up in front of the town without discovering the gun-boats. A thick fog shut in everything. At daybreak returned up the river to Batchelder's Creek, as our forces were crossing.

Monday, reconnoitered; only one gun-boat in sight. After dark attacked and captured her. She was moored close in shore in order to rake the approaches on the right of their line. I tried to move her, but failed. Her fires were nearly out, and in attempting to tow her out were subjected to a fire of artillery and infantry. Fired her, bringing off all our boats and men.

The next morning all of our forces were ordered back. The water front of the town I found open and unguarded. As far as I could judge, their force was small, say 4,000 men. I will press forward to completion the gun-boats. I think they can be ready for service in a month or six weeks.

Respectfully, &c., your obedient servant,

J. TAYLOR WOOD.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia.*

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**JANUARY 29, 1864.—Affair near Gloucester Court-House, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Isaac J. Wistar, U. S. Army.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 29, 1864—9.30 p. m.
(Received 10.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

I forward the following from General Wistar, for your information:

Captured some 3 prisoners, also some horses and arms, near Gloucester Court-House to-day. Hampton's cavalry division, about 8,000 strong, with one battery, occupy Fredericksburg and Falmouth and scouting down to Gloucester.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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**JANUARY 29–FEBRUARY 1, 1864.—Expedition to Isle of Wight County, Va., skirmishes near Benn's Church and at Smithfield, and destruction of the U. S. steamer Smith Briggs.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham, U. S. Army, commanding Naval Brigade.**

HEADQUARTERS NAVAL BRIGADE,
*Norfolk, Va., February* 2, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following as the result of an expedition organized under my command for the purpose of capturing a small force of the enemy which was reported to be sta-

*For reports of Acting Rear-Admiral Lee, Capt. Guert Gansevoort, Lieut. Commander James H. Gillis, and other U. S. naval officers, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

tioned on the peninsula formed by Pagan and Chuckatuck Creeks and the Nansemond River.

On the afternoon of the 29th January the gun-boat Flora Temple was ordered to proceed to Chuckatuck Creek, to make a thorough reconnaissance at daylight the next morning, and the gun-boat Smith Briggs was sent up the Nansemond ; both vessels to return about the same time, anchor at the mouth of the Nansemond, and await my arrival in the gun-boat General Jesup.

On the afternoon of the 30th, I left Norfolk in the gun-boat General Jesup, accompanied by the transport Long Branch, having on board a detachment of cavalry, a howitzer squad, and a few infantry, which was subsequently increased by additions from my gun-boats' crews to make the detachments number about 90 men, which force was placed under the command of Captain Lee, of the harbor police. The fog became so dense before reaching the mouth of the Nansemond that the gun-boat General Jesup grounded, in consequence of which both vessels were compelled to anchor and remain until morning.

At daylight on the 31st, we proceeded up the Nansemond and were joined there by the Flora Temple and Smith Briggs. Lieutenant-Commander Gillis, commanding the U. S. naval gun-boat Commodore Morris, which was stationed there, came on board, generously offered his co-operation, and it was gratefully accepted. The gun-boat Smith Briggs, with two launches and their crews from the steamer Foster, and the U. S. naval gun-boat Commodore Morris, all under the command of Lieutenant-Commander Gillis, who had received 50 additional men from the flagship Minnesota, were ordered to proceed up the Nansemond as far as Holloway Point, at which point they were to land at 2 p. m. and advance to the village of Chuckatuck and join the force which would land at Smithfield under my direction. Everything being in readiness, I sailed with the gun-boats General Jesup and Flora Temple and the transport Long Branch at 10.30 a. m. for Smithfield, on Pagan Creek, and arrived at that point at 1 p. m. At 1.25 o'clock the force was landed, the whole under the command of Captain Lee, of the Ninety-ninth New York Volunteers. Captain Lee was ordered to advance to Chuckatuck village, form a junction with the force landed on the Nansemond, engaging the enemy on the way if his passage should be resisted. I remained with the gun-boats General Jesup and Flora Temple, having placed them in position to command the town, stopping there two hours to cover the retreat of the force under Captain Lee, should it be compelled to fall back before a superior force of the enemy. At 3 p. m. the Flora Temple was ordered to proceed to Chuckatuck Cre k and engage the attention of the enemy, known to be stationed in the neighborhood of Cherry Grove, and prevent its advance against the force landed at Smithfield. At 4 p. m., having heard no firing, and supposing Captain Lee to have met with no enemy, I sailed with gun-boat General Jesup and transport Long Branch for Holloway Point, on the Nansemond River. Having reached the mouth of Pagan Creek, the gun-boat Flora Temple was discovered to be aground, and it was not until about 5 p. m. that she was got off. I then ordered the General Jesup and Long Branch to put on a full head of steam and proceed with the utmost dispatch to Holloway Point.

The weather was very inclement, and the fog became so dense toward night that it was almost impossible to proceed. Arriving at

the mouth of the Nansemond, the pilot stated that he could not go up, as it would be impossible to keep the channel. Ordering the pilot of the General Jesup to go on board the Long Branch, she being of light draught, I directed him to make the effort to reach Holloway Point. Arrived at that place at 8 p. m., and was informed by Lieutenant-Commander Gillis that Captain McLaughlin, with 40 men, had advanced to Chuckatuck village; remained there until dark and returned, reporting that he had heard heavy firing in the direction of Smithfield, which he supposed to have been occasioned by the enemy resisting our landing at that point. Surprised at the non-arrival of the force which had landed at Smithfield, I ordered a detachment of 20 men to land and advance a mile toward Chuckatuck and look out for it, and directed the gun-boat Smith Briggs (taking the remainder of Captain McLaughlin's detachment on board the Long Branch) to sail, with orders to the Flora Temple and General Jesup to proceed at daylight to Chuckatuck Creek, reconnoiter thoroughly, and report the result to me in the Nansemond. On the return of the Smith Briggs I dispatched her at 6.30 a. m. with a communication to Rear-Admiral Lee, at Newport News, giving the facts as they stood, requesting him to communicate the same to you, and informing him that I should land at daylight with all the force at my disposal and march to Chuckatuck. After delivering the dispatch, Captain Rowe was ordered to proceed at once to Smithfield. I landed about 7 a. m. with a detachment of 80 men, 50 of them seamen from the Commodore Morris, kindly furnished to me by Lieutenant-Commander Gillis, under command of Captain McLaughlin, and three officers of the Commodore Morris, accompanied by my two aides, and proceeded to Chuckatuck village. Finding no enemy there I ordered an advance a mile beyond, but could gain no tidings of the missing detachment. After remaining there for an hour, without hearing any firing, fearing the detachment had been captured or dispersed, I returned to the river to make other dispositions.

At this time, about 11.30 a. m., the U. S. naval gun-boat Commodore Jones came up with a dispatch from Rear-Admiral Lee to Lieutenant-Commander Gillis, stating that Ensign Harris had escaped from Smithfield; that Captain Lee's detachment was surrounded at that point, and short of ammunition. Rear-Admiral Lee very kindly volunteered to do all in his power to relieve the detachment at Smithfield, and stated that launches with howitzers and ammunition had already been sent. Upon the receipt of this information I immediately sailed for Smithfield, ordering the gun-boat General Jesup, which was lying at the mouth of Chuckatuck Creek, to accompany me. On reaching the mouth of Pagan Creek, about 4 p. m., the information was communicated to me by an officer of the U. S. naval gun-boat Commodore Barney that the Smith Briggs with the detachment of Captain Lee had been captured, and a few moments afterward a terrific explosion occurred, the enemy having blown up the Smith Briggs to prevent her recapture. About the same time a white flag was discovered to be waving on the banks of Pagan Creek, a mile or so distant from its mouth. A boat was ordered from the Jesup to ascertain the cause, and returned with Captain Lee and 3 others. The launches furnished by Rear-Admiral Lee, and which were towed into Pagan Creek by the Smith Briggs, were received with such a terrific fire from riflemen that after discharging their howitzers they were compelled to retire, the commanding officer and several of the men having been severely wounded.

For a full statement of the capturing of the force under Captain Lee and the gun-boat Smith Briggs you are respectfully referred to Captain Lee's report, which accompanies this.* All the officers and men under my immediate observation acted energetically, and from the reports of the escaped I am satisfied that Captain Lee, Ensign Harris, Lieutenant Harris, of the Jesup, and Sergeant Hyatt deserve the most honorable mention. Captain Rowe, of the Smith Briggs, although severely wounded through the neck, remained at his post, gallantly fighting his vessel until she was entirely disabled. The men fought most heroically, inflicting terrible loss on the enemy.

My obligations are due to Rear-Admiral Lee for the alacrity with which he responded to my application for assistance, and the generous efforts made under his direction to rescue the beleaguered force under Captain Lee; likewise to Lieutenant-Commander Gillis for the essential aid he rendered me in the loan of 50 seaman, and to the officers who commanded them for the cheerfulness with which they obeyed my orders.

A list of the killed and wounded, as far as known, also of the missing, will be forwarded as soon as a reliable report can be obtained.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

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## JANUARY 30, 1864.—Skirmish at Windsor, N. C.

### REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Congratulatory orders from Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Col. Joel R. Griffin, Sixty-second Georgia Cavalry.

### No. 1.

*Congratulatory orders from Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. CAROLINA,
No. 20. } *New Berne, N. C., February 23, 1864.*

The commanding general announces with satisfaction the success of an expedition sent to Windsor by General H. W. Wessells on the 29th of January, which resulted in breaking up the cantonment of a company of Georgia cavalry. Some prisoners were taken and a large number of dangerous persons secured. Arms, horses, mules, wagons, clothing, and ammunition were captured. Lieutenant-Colonel Tolles was in command. He had detachments of the One hundred and third and One hundred and first Pennsylvania, Eighty-fifth New York, and Fifteenth and Sixteenth Connecticut Volunteers. A small party of the Second North Carolina Volunteers co-operated, as well as Lieutenant-Commander Flusser with 50 sailors and marines.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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* Not found.

No. 2.

*Report of Col. Joel R. Griffin, Sixty-second Georgia Cavalry.*

JACKSON, *January* 31, 1864.
(Received at Richmond, February 1.)

Yesterday morning with force of 200 men and mountain rifled piece, after fight of two hours with 1,200 of enemy and three pieces artillery, [Yankees] were driven from Windsor, N. C., to their boats.* We lost 6 men; enemy not known.

J. R. GRIFFIN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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**JANUARY 30, 1864.—Scout from Culpeper to Madison Court-House, Va.**

*Report of Col. George H. Chapman, Third Indiana Cavalry, commanding brigade.*

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
*Near Culpeper Court-House, Va., January* 31, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of reconnaissance made by myself yesterday with a force of 200 men, consisting of 100 from the Third Indiana Cavalry, under Major Patton, and 100 of the Eighth New York Cavalry, under Captain Moore, acting major:

Leaving the school-house on the Waylandsburg road, about 2 a. m., I proceeded to Clark's Ford on the Rapidan River, and finding the road obstructed in the vicinity of the ford with felled timber, a crossing was effected below with some difficulty and delay. The enemy had a small picket post at this point, but they had evidently heard our approach over the rocky road, and succeeded in making their escape. Having got my command across I pushed on rapidly toward Madison Court-House. At Mount Zion Church my advance came upon the enemy in some force, and a number of shots were exchanged, but before I could so dispose of my main force as to cut off their escape they retreated in the direction of Madison Mills. The morning was cloudy and so dark that nothing could be seen save the flashes of the fire-arms. I afterward learned that the main reserve of the picket-line was stationed at this church, consisting of from three to four companies. Without unnecessary delay I proceeded to the point where the road from Hume's Ford joins the road I was pursuing, and sent party to the ford, which delayed me an hour or more. In this neighborhood 5 of the enemy's pickets were captured and 5 horses, and 1 man and 1 horse killed. From this point to Madison Court-House nothing was seen of the enemy except a few scattered men, most of whom effected their escape. At Madison Court-House no troops were found, and after halting there an hour to rest my horses and examine the town, I proceeded up the turnpike, intending to go to Mount Carmel Church. My guide

* For report of Lieut. Commander C. W. Flusser, U. S. Navy, commenting upon Griffin's report, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

lost the road, however, and we crossed the Robertson at the covered bridge, and after traveling a number of miles over plantation roads, and failing to find the church, I returned to camp by the way of Bethel Church and White's Shop, having marched fully 50 miles.

One regiment, the Sixth Virginia Cavalry, of Lomax's brigade, variously stated at from 200 to 400 strong, were doing the picket work along the Robertson. The brigade, I was informed, has encamped near Madison Mills, and it is stated by citizens there is no other cavalry in that immediate vicinity. No troops are encamped between the Robertson and Rapidan Rivers.

I brought in 12 prisoners and 11 horses, and killed 1 man in a little skirmish with one of the enemy's picket details. Also sent into the lines the family of my guide as refugees from rebeldom. My loss was nothing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[GEO. H. CHAPMAN,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*]

Capt. T. C. BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**JANUARY 31, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Madison Court-House and Mount Carmel Church, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt, U. S. Army.*

CULPEPER, *February* 1, 1864.

The reconnaissance sent out yesterday morning went to Madison Court-House and Mount Carmel Church, out near Criglersville. Lomax's cavalry brigade is reported to be at Madison Mills. No other troops in that vicinity. Twenty-two prisoners were made and 1 rebel killed in a skirmish with pickets. Sixteen horses and 1 mule and a sutler's wagon were taken. The parties sent out met with no loss. The family of Robinson, whom the general commanding sent to me for help some time since, was also brought away. There is no large force of the enemy on our right front and flank.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

Lieut. Col. C. R. SMITH,
*Chief of Staff.*

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**FEBRUARY 2, 1864.—Skirmish near Strasburg, Va.**

*Report of Col. Robert S. Rodgers, Second Eastern Shore Maryland Infantry.*

MARTINSBURG, VA.,
*February* 5, 1864.

The party detached by Major Bell passed through Winchester, but were attacked near Strasburg and driven back, losing 7 men. The enemy reported to be 100 on Fisher's Hill and 200 at Woodstock. Have heard nothing from Major Bell.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**FEBRUARY 3, 1864.—Capture of the steamer Levi, Kanawha River, W. Va.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding Department of West Virginia.

No. 2.—Capt. C. Regnier, commanding steamer Levi.

No. 3.—Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding Department of Western Virginia.

No. 4.—Maj. James H. Nounnan, Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry.

No. 1.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding Department of West Virginia.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 3, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 11 p. m.)

The following telegram, advising me of capture of General Scammon and the burning of the steamer Levi just received. Presume it was done by Ferguson's guerrillas. Mulligan's and Sullivan's forces have formed a junction, and are pursuing the enemy vigorously. Sullivan's cavalry had a brisk skirmish last night near Romney; captured several prisoners:

GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, *February* 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

Brigadier-General Scammon left Point Pleasant last night on steamer Levi for Charleston. The boat was captured by the rebels at Red House. They burned her, and have taken General Scammon, 1 lieutenant of his staff, and Captain Pinckard off prisoners. The boat's crew and passengers are released.

G. J. STEALEY,
*Captain, Quartermaster.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 4, 1864.
(Received 6.10 p. m.)

The following telegrams from General Duffié are transmitted for the information of the General-in-Chief:

CHARLESTON, *February* 3.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

Dispatch received at 4 p. m. from Gallipolis informs me that General Scammon, with Lieutenant Millward, his aide, and 4 privates, were captured at Red House early this morning. The steamer Levi was burned. The boat was captured by 20 rebel cavalry. No resistance was made by the boat. My cavalry is after them.

CHARLESTON, *February* 3.

General KELLEY:

The Levi was captured this morning at 5 o'clock at the Red House Landing, when all were sleeping on board. To-night I send, under Colonel Hayes, 100 men and two mountain howitzers, on steamer Victress, to proceed as far as possible on the river, as I do not think they have yet recrossed the Guyandotte River. If they have not I will certainly recapture General Scammon. If I do not succeed by this

way my cavalry will recapture him if my orders are fully carried out. The officer at Hurricane bridge, who has allowed the enemy to cross the Hurricane Creek, is placed in arrest. I shall again call your attention to my request that a gun-boat should be sent here to protect the river.

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM, *Chief of Staff.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Capt. C. Regnier, commanding steamer Levi.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
*Charlestown, W. Va., February* 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward by Colonel Jones the report of the captain of the Levi, who was captured by the rebels on the 3d of this month. All my cavalry returned to their quarters without success, after having pursued the enemy for five days.

I would respectfully ask that the boats be placed under my control, in order to regulate the hour of their departure, and avoid by this means all kinds of disaster.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*General.*

[Inclosure.]

On Monday evening, February 1, 1864, I left Gallipolis, Ohio, for Point Pleasant, Va., there to load with lumber, and to proceed up Kanawha River Tuesday morning. After loading with lumber I was ordered back to Gallipolis that Monday night to await orders. I lay at Gallipolis until Tuesday evening, about 5 o'clock; was then ordered to Point Pleasant, Va., there to meet the general [E. P. Scammon]. He came on board about dusk. Soon after coming on board the general asked me if I could run up that night. I told the general it was too dark and stormy a night to run farther than Red House Shoals, there being a dug chute there, and could not run that without it being light enough to see the walls. I insisted upon not leaving that night, as I remarked to him before leaving we could not run the dug chute unless it was light enough to see. The general thought we could make time by leaving that night. I told him we could leave at 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning, and make as good time as we could by leaving that night. Capt. G. J. Stealey, assistant quartermaster, also did not wish him to start that night, and tried to persuade him otherwise. The general thought best to go, and so ordered. I left the mouth of the river about 7 p. m.; run to Red House Shoals and tied up at five minutes past 1 o'clock. After seeing the boat tied up I gave instructions to the watchman on the boat to have the pilot called at 2.30 o'clock. After giving those instructions to watchman of boat, I went back in the cabin to retire; had some moments' conversation with the general. He asked what time I thought of starting from there. I told him just as soon as the pilot could see; if moon would rise and not cloudy we would leave

at 2.30 o'clock. The pilot was called at that time, and said it was entirely too dark and could not see. While waiting for it to clear up some, so as he could see, the boat was captured. A lieutenant and 13 men came on board with a rush and secured all arms that were in the boat. There were some soldiers aboard; to best of my knowledge, some 16 or 17. No sentinel or picket was placed on shore. At the time of the capture of the boat I had steam up, pilot was at the wheel, the mate on the hurricane deck, engineer at his post. On arriving at Red House that night could learn of no rumor or hear of any rebels. After some little time, with a guard over pilot and engineer, the boat was run over to Winfield side; remained there until about 10 o'clock. On landing on that side more of the enemy came on board, making them number 28. Were taken some minutes after 5 a. m.

About 10 o'clock, with the guard over pilot and engineer, the boat was ordered to run down to mouth of Hurricane Creek, and landed about half mile below at Vintreaux Landing. At twenty minutes after 12 o'clock the general and officers were taken ashore, and ten minutes' notice given to crew and all to get ashore; they were going to burn the boat. The boat was burnt at 12.30 p. m. At that time is the last I saw of the general. After the capture of the boat, and during the morning, the general tried to induce the soldiers to stand and retake the boat, but could not.

The above are facts, as I will testify to.

C. REGNIER.

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No. 3.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding Department of Western Virginia.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, February* 15, 1864.

GENERAL: I inclose with this a copy of a letter received this morning from Major Nounnan, of the Sixteenth Regiment Virginia Cavalry, together with a parole* signed by 23 enlisted men of the U. S. Army. Lieutenant Vertegans, of the same regiment, of whom the major speaks in complimentary terms, will start to-morrow for Richmond with Brigadier-General Scammon and the 2 officers of his staff—Lieutenants Pinckard and Millward. Major Nounnan and his small party, especially Lieutenant Vertegans, have performed their duty in the most creditable manner.

I sent Colonel Ferguson with his regiment (the Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry) to the Lower Kanawha late in December last. He has so far conducted the expedition with judgment and discretion; has captured much of the enemy's property and a number of prisoners, and diverted the attention of the enemy in that quarter from this part of the country to the protection of their own border.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjt. and Insp. Gen. C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.*

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*Omitted.

No. 4.

*Report of Maj. James H. Nounnan, Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry.*

LOGAN COUNTY, VA., *February 7*, 1864.

GENERAL: I left Colonel Ferguson in Wayne County on the 26th ultimo with indefinite orders and discretionary powers, and moved in the direction of the Kanawha River, along which stream I maneuvered in the counties of Mason and Putnam until the 3d instant. I entered Winfield (Putnam Court-House) on the morning of the 3d instant at 3 o'clock with 40 men, and found a number of Government officials there, whom I failed to secure, and a Government steamer with a strong guard and a piece of artillery lying upon the opposite side of the river. With great difficulty I secured a small craft, capable only of carrying four men, with which I crossed a small party of 12 men, under Lieut. E. G. Vertegans, who obeyed my instructions as speedily as possible in cutting the telegraph and assaulting the boat, which surrendered without firing a gun, although having moored several yards from the shore. I found a valuable cargo on board, consisting chiefly of medical stores and tarpaulin, a lot of arms, &c., and Brig. Gen. E. P. Scammon, Capt. William G. Pinckard, and Lieut. Frank Millward, of his staff, and Lieut. William C. Lyons, Twenty-third Ohio Volunteers, and 25 non-commissioned officers and privates. I secured about 20 horses and some of the most valuable medicines, demolished the telegraph office, instruments, wire, &c., and moved to the mouth of Big Hurricane, where I burned the boat and cargo of over $100,000 worth of medicines, destroyed the piece of artillery and a quantity of ammunition, paroled all the non-commissioned officers and privates except one, and determined to make my way through with the most valuable prisoners with as much speed as possible. The enemy pressed me heavily at all points in their efforts to recover the prisoners, and compelled me to come to this point.

I herewith send you General Scammon, Captain Pinckard, Lieutenants Millward and Lyons, and Sergt. Thomas McCormick, who refused to take a parole. I take great pleasure in bringing to your notice the coolness, discretion, and courage displayed by Lieutenant Vertegans, as well as the good behavior and daring courage and fortitude of my entire force. I shall report to Colonel Ferguson, in Wayne County, as speedily as possible, and send the prisoners through from this point with a mounted guard.

I remain, general, with much respect, your obedient servant,

JAS. H. NOUNNAN,
*Major, Comdg. Detachment Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry.*

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES,
*Commanding Department of Western Virginia.*

P. S.—I send General Scammon and Lieutenants Millward and Lyons in charge of Lieutenant Vertegans. The rest will be forwarded so soon as I hear from Colonel Ferguson.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. NOUNNAN,
*Major, &c.*

**FEBRUARY 5, 1864.—Skirmish near Aldie, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Robert O. Tyler, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
*February* 6, 1864—9.30 p. m.

I have the honor to report all quiet. The scouting party sent out yesterday returned this afternoon from Aldie and Middleburg. Their rear guard was attacked yesterday noon by 8 of Mosby's men; they were dispersed, and the leader, who proved to be William E. Ormsby, who deserted from Second Massachusetts Cavalry on the night of January 24, was captured, and is now being tried by drumhead court-martial.* Two men of the Second Massachusetts Cavalry and 3 rebels were wounded. Five citizens were arrested under suspicious circumstances. No evidence was found of any force being in the vicinity.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Lieutenant-Colonel TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff, Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**FEBRUARY 6–7, 1864.—Demonstration on the Rapidan, including engagement at Morton's Ford and skirmishes at Barnett's and Culpeper Fords, Va.**

REPORTS, ETC.†

No. 1.—Itinerary of the First Army Corps.
No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Gouverneu K. Warren, U. S. Army, commanding Second Army Corps.
No. 3.—Brig. Gen. John C. Caldwell, U. S. Army, commanding Second Army Corps and First Division.
No. 4.—Brig. Gen. Alexander S. Webb, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.
No. 5.—Col. De Witt C. Baxter, Seventy-second Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade.
No. 6.—Capt. William H. Fogler, Nineteenth Maine Infantry.
No. 7.—Capt. Samuel J. Fletcher, Fifteenth Massachusetts Infantry.
No. 8.—Col. Henry W. Hudson, Eighty-second New York Infantry.
No. 9.—Lieut. Col. George W. Thompson, One hundred and fifty-second New York Infantry.
No. 10.—Brig. Gen. Alexander Hays, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division.
No. 11.—Col. Samuel S. Carroll, Eighth Ohio Infantry, commanding First Brigade.
No. 12.—Col. Charles J. Powers, One hundred and eighth New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 13.—Lieut. Col. Samuel A. Moore, Fourteenth Connecticut Infantry.
No. 14.—Capt. George M. Dewey, Tenth New York Battalion Infantry.
No. 15.—Brig. Gen. Joshua T. Owen, U. S. Army, commanding Third Brigade.
No. 16.—Lieut. Col. James G. Hughes, Thirty-ninth New York Infantry.
No. 17.—Lieut. Col. Isaac M. Lusk, One hundred and eleventh New York Infantry.
No. 18.—Col. Levin Crandell, One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Infantry.
No. 19.—Col. James M. Bull, One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Infantry.

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* Ormsby was executed February 7, 1864.

†See also dispatches from Butler, Halleck, and Sedgwick, February 3–8, in Correspondence, &c., *post*.

No. 20.—Lieut. Col. J. Albert Monroe, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, commanding Artillery Brigade.

No. 21.—Itinerary of the Third Army Corps.

No. 22.—Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, Cavalry Corps.

No. 23.—Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division.

No. 24.—General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding Army of Northern Virginia.

No. 25.—Col. Henry C. Cabell, C. S. Artillery, commanding Artillery Battalion.

## No. 1.

### *Itinerary of the First Army Corps.**

*February* 6.—The troops of this corps marched to Raccoon Ford, Rapidan River. Pickets were established, and the troops bivouacked for the night. After dark that night the colonel commanding [First Brigade, First Division], with 300 men taken from the several regiments, moved to the ford and burned the village located there. Returned to camp without loss, but few shots being fired.

*February* 7.—Battery B, Fourth U. S. Artillery, L, First New York Artillery, and A, First Maryland Volunteer Artillery, moved toward Raccoon Ford, on the Rapidan, pursuant to orders from corps headquarters. L and A were detached from the rest of the corps, and took position between Raccoon and Morton's Fords, this side the Rapidan. The two batteries expended about 60 rounds of ammunition without eliciting a reply from the enemy. The corps received orders at dusk to return to camp.

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## No. 2.

### *Report of Maj. Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren, U. S. Army, commanding Second Army Corps.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*March* 23, 1864.

GENERAL: I respectfully submit the following report of the demonstration against the enemy made by this corps on the 6th of February:

Proper orders were issued the night before, as soon as received from you, to move the whole corps at daylight. Being very unwell in the morning, which was stormy, and the operations ordered being only by way of demonstration, I allowed the movement to proceed under direction of General Caldwell. I quote from his report:

> On riding forward to reconnoiter, I found that the enemy had a picket-line along the river and a force of 30 or more men in rifle-pits directly at the ford. I directed Brigadier-General Hays, commanding Third Division, to send a brigade across the river at the ford and to advance a half a mile beyond. This was done in the most gallant manner, and nearly the whole force at the ford was captured without the loss of a man. This brigade then advanced, with little opposition, to a ridge about three-fourths of a mile from the enemy's intrenchments. The enemy making a considerable show of force in front of General Owen's brigade, at the request of General Hays the two remaining brigades of his division were sent across the river. Understanding as I did that orders from army headquarters were not to precipitate an engagement, but to draw a large force of the enemy to our front, I determined not to advance farther, but to hold our position.

General Caldwell then disposed our artillery to operate on the right and left flanks of General Hays' division, brought General Webb's division as close to the river bank as shelter from the enemy's obser-

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*From monthly return.

vation would permit, and stationed the First Division a little way back, at the edge of the forest. On learning the above result, I repaired at once to the front, with instructions from the general commanding to withdraw our troops across the river if I deemed them in danger of being overwhelmed, or to push our advance farther if it offered prospects of success. I reached the ford about 3 p. m. and carefully reconnoitered the position of the enemy, under fire from his sharpshooters.

Morton's Ford is at the middle of a considerable bend in the river, whose convexity is turned toward us. The point of land opposite is about 1 mile along the stream, and rising gradually from the river it is seen and commanded for about half mile by the ground on this side. About 1 mile from the river a high ridge is found which, encircling the point at the ford, joins the banks of the river above and below, while at these points the enemy have complete command of the ground on this side of the river. This ridge is also generally wooded and strongly intrenched.

In these woods and behind these lines were two camps. He had complete control with his fire over the point of land our troops had gained on his side of the stream. Our troops then were in a kind of cul-de-sac—a focus of fire. I soon determined, from the appearances above described and the force of the enemy (see General Owen's report), not to advance farther, and to wait till night before withdrawing my command, as the movement of the troops drew the fire of the enemy's artillery upon them whenever attempted. About this time General Newton's command approached the vicinity of Raccoon Ford, in sight upon our right, and commenced with his artillery a demonstration against the enemy posted there. Just at dark the enemy commenced an attack upon our skirmish line, and one of his regiments assailed a house where the right of this line was posted, and took it. Our men, upon being re-enforced, retook the place, and the line was re-established. The enemy continued a very brisk musketry fire at long range from all his line around us, and as the curve of the path of the ball at the distance was greater than the slight undulations of the ground, this latter afforded little or no protection to our men. Holding their position bravely against the concentrating, plunging, and crossing fire, and replying as best they could to the enemy, mainly well sheltered, our men of General Hays' division lost about 210 in killed and wounded. While this was going on, General Webb's division was ordered by me to cross to General Hays' support. The firing ceased after about one hour's duration. General Webb relieved General Hays' troops, and they withdrew with their wounded and dead to our side. General Webb withdrew his division about midnight. We remained on the river bank in position all day on the 7th, and returned to our camp in the evening. General Hays, in his report, says :

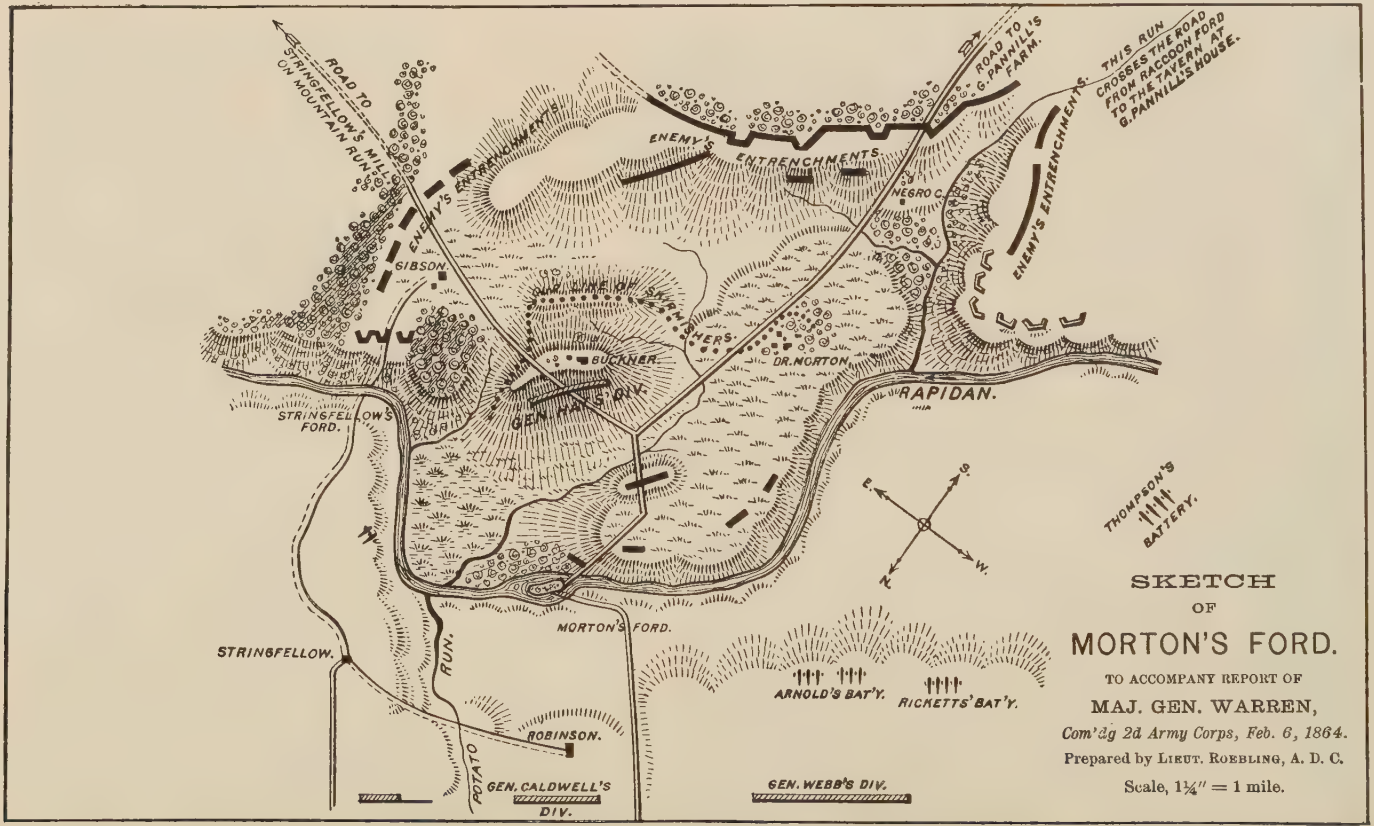
> If supported by our whole corps I have not the least doubt that we would have been enabled to capture the whole force of the rebels, including camp and artillery, with less loss than we have suffered.

Lest the sanguine opinion from so able and reliable an officer may occasion chagrin that we did not attempt more, I will state that the demonstration was made without any pontoon bridges being with us, and the river was cold and deep, and the ingress and egress from the water difficult, and that, although a foot bridge was immediately begun and pushed with energy, it was not passable till dark. It would have occupied most of the day to cross our troops by wading,

during which time the enemy would have been concentrating. It would have been easy for him to retire with his artillery if he had not felt confident of resisting our attack. Even if we gained possession of the intrenchments and destroyed the camps, we would have gained but little and been unable to maintain ourselves without much of our army being with us which was not prepared to come. Moreover, a repulse upon that open plain, with our whole corps engaged and the river behind us, might have occurred and proved most disastrous. The effect of the enemy's random firing after dark upon our single division shows how much greater would have been our loss had the whole corps been exposed to it. Had we escaped this night attack our successful demonstration would have been a most gratifying affair. The losses we sustained, however saddening, are greatly alleviated by many most cheering examples of gallantry and good conduct. The thrilling spectacle of a small column marching by the flank across a deep stream in the face of the enemy in open day has seldom been witnessed. Its unparalleled audacity destroyed the accuracy of the enemy's fire, and paralyzed his flight. Capt. R. S. Seabury, assistant adjutant-general to General Owen, was the leader of this gallant party, mounted on his horse, and deserves to be mentioned in general orders. Lieut. Col. William H. Baird, of the One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Volunteers, also attracted notice by his bravery. The Seventh [West] Virginia Volunteers, commanded by Lieut. Col. J. H. Lockwood, though all ready to go on the veteran furlough which had been granted them, chose rather to go to meet the enemy, and they returned with their commander and 10 of his men wounded. Colonel Carroll, to whose brigade the Seventh Virginia belongs, behaved with his usual gallantry in commanding his brigade, as did also Brigadier-General Owen, whose brigade was the first across the Rapidan. Col. Charles J. Powers commanded the Second Brigade of General Hays' division in this trying situation, and his loss was heavier than any other portion of the command. General Hays' disregard of danger was again conspicuous. His horse was shot, and a bullet passed through his clothes. His aide, Lieutenant Shields, received a frightful bullet wound entirely through his breast. His assistant adjutant-general, Lieut. J. S. Sullivan, had his horse shot under him, and Captain Lynch, of his staff, had his hat torn from his head by a piece of shell. Brigadier-General Webb conducted all the movements of his division with vigor and promptness. Brigadier-General Caldwell conducted the operations of the corps during my absence in a successful manner, in accordance with the instructions from headquarters Army of Potomac. The Artillery Brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Monroe, performed its duties most satisfactorily, moving with promptness and dispatch, though the roads were heavy with mud. Dr. Dougherty and the officers of his department took all the care of the wounded that could ever be done on a battle-field. The pontoon train, under Captain Barlow, U. S. Engineers, arrived in the night closing the 6th of February, but no occasion after called for its use. General Humphreys, chief of staff, Army of the Potomac, was present during the enemy's attack at night-fall. Lieut. Col. F. A. Walker, assistant adjutant-general; Captain Miller, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant Roebling, aide-de-camp, acquitted themselves handsomely.

I accompany this report with a map sketch* of the vicinity of

*See p. 117.


ROAD TO STRINGFELLOW'S MILLS ON MOUNTAIN RUN
ENEMY'S ENTRENCHMENTS
ENEMY'S ENTRENCHMENTS
ROAD TO G. PANNILL'S FARM.
THIS RUN CROSSES THE ROAD FROM RACCOON FORD TO THE TAVERN AT G. PANNILL'S HOUSE.
ENEMY'S ENTRENCHMENTS
NEGRO C.
GIBSON.
BUCKNER.
DR. NORTON
RAPIDAN.
STRINGFELLOW'S FORD.
GEN. HAYS'S DIV.
THOMPSON'S BATTERY.
MORTON'S FORD.
STRINGFELLOW.
RUN.
ROBINSON.
POAGUE
GEN. CALDWELL'S DIV.
GEN. WEBB'S DIV.
ARNOLD'S BAT'Y.
RICKETTS' BAT'Y.
SKETCH
OF
MORTON'S FORD.
TO ACCOMPANY REPORT OF
MAJ. GEN. WARREN,
Com'dg 2d Army Corps, Feb. 6, 1864.
Prepared by LIEUT. ROEBLING, A. D. C.
Scale, 1¼″ = 1 mile.

Morton's Ford, made by Lieutenant Roebling; also a nominal list* of casualties; also copies of the reports of Brigadier-General Caldwell, commanding First Division; Brigadier-General Hays, commanding Third Division; Brigadier-General Webb, commanding Second Division; Brigadier-General Owen, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division; Colonel Carroll, commanding First Brigade, Third Division; Colonel Powers, commanding Second Brigade, Third Division; Lieutenant-Colonel Monroe, commanding Artillery Brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

General S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ADDENDA.*

*Return of casualties in the Second Army Corps at Morton's Ford, February 6 and 7, 1864.*

[Compiled from nominal lists of casualties, returns, &c.]

| Command. | Killed. | | Wounded. | | Captured or missing. | | Aggregate. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | |
| Second Division: | | | | | | | |
| First Brigade: | | | | | | | |
| 19th Maine | | | | 2 | | | 2 |
| Third Division: | | | | | | | |
| Staff | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| First Brigade: | | | | | | | |
| 14th Indiana | | 2 | 2 | 11 | | | 15 |
| 4th Ohio | | | | 17 | | | 17 |
| 8th Ohio | | | 2 | | | | 2 |
| 7th West Virginia | | | 1 | 10 | | | 11 |
| Second Brigade: | | | | | | | |
| 14th Connecticut | | 6 | 7 | 83 | 1 | 18 | 115 |
| 1st Delaware | | | | 6 | | 4 | 10 |
| 12th New Jersey | | | | 11 | | | 11 |
| 10th New York Battalion | | 1 | | 2 | | | 3 |
| 108th New York | | | 1 | 6 | | | 7 |
| Third Brigade: | | | | | | | |
| 39th New York | | 1 | | 20 | | 15 | 36 |
| 111th New York | | | | 3 | | | 3 |
| 126th New York | | 1 | 1 | 17 | | 2 | 21 |
| Artillery Brigade: | | | | | | | |
| Pennsylvania Light, Battery F | | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Grand total | | 11 | 15 | 189 | 1 | 39 | 255 |

FEBRUARY 9, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs me to express to you the great satisfaction he has felt at the prompt and handsome manner in which the Second Corps executed the duties assigned it in the reconnaissance of the 6th and 7th instant, and to express his regret at the severe loss it met with in the operation.†

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

* Embodied in Addenda, following.

† Complimentary dispatches also sent to commanding officers of the First and Third Army Corps.

No. 3.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. John C. Caldwell, U. S. Army, commanding Second Army Corps and First Division.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*Stringfellow's House at Morton's Ford, Feb.* 6, 1864—12.30 p. m.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I have crossed two brigades at Morton's Ford with but little opposition, capturing 26 men and 2 officers, without losing a man; prisoners from Stonewall's old brigade; they report that there are but two brigades within 2 miles. The enemy is firing from three guns. I have not yet replied with my artillery, distance being too great. My skirmish line is within 800 to 1,000 yards of their rifle-pits, which appear to be manned. They are now showing more artillery, probably ten guns. I am now sending across another brigade. I do not purpose to advance without further orders or until the arrival of General Warren.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CALDWELL,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.*

General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*Morton's Ford, February* 6, 1864—2.15 p. m.

GENERAL: I sent a staff officer to General Newton, to inform him that I had crossed a division and to learn his movements. He informs me that General Newton is putting his men in position 1½ miles from Raccoon Ford, and that he has made no further demonstration and did not intend attempting to ford until he had more accurate information of the force in his front. The enemy is rapidly re-enforcing his line in my front. I have now a division across the river about half a mile from the ford. The ford is very difficult. If it rains it will be necessary either to lay a bridge or to withdraw my troops this side the river. I respectfully ask instructions how to proceed. I have heard no firing except in my front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CALDWELL,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

General HUMPHREYS.

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*March* 22, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command on the 6th and 7th of February last:

In obedience to orders from headquarters Second Corps, my division moved toward Morton's Ford at 7 o'clock on the morning of the 6th. When within 1 mile of the ford I was informed by Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, assistant adjutant-general of the corps, that Major-General Warren was unable to leave his quarters on account of sick-

ness, and that the command of the corps devolved upon me. The instructions which he then showed me directed that the Second Corps should move to Morton's Ford and make a demonstration during the 6th, 7th, and 8th. On riding forward to reconnoiter I found that the enemy had a picket-line along the river, and a force of 30 or more men in rifle-pits directly at the ford. I directed Brigadier-General Hays, commanding Third Division, to send a brigade across the river at the ford and to advance it half a mile beyond. This was done in the most gallant manner, and nearly the whole force at the ford was captured without the loss of a man. This brigade then advanced with little opposition to a ridge about three-quarters of a mile from the river, where it halted about a rifle-shot from the enemy's intrenchments. The enemy making a considerable show of force in front of General Owen's brigade, at the request of General Hays the two remaining brigades of the Third Division were sent across the river.

Understanding as I did that the orders from army headquarters were not to precipitate an engagement, but to draw a large force of the enemy to our front, I determined not to advance farther, but to hold our position. To accomplish this I made the following disposition: The left of the Third Division rested near the river opposite Stringfellow's house, but the right was on open ground at some distance from the river. To protect the right, which was much the weakest in infantry, the rifled batteries of Captains Thompson and Arnold were placed in position on the high ground near the river bank, so as to cover completely with their fire any approach of the enemy on our right. A section of Captain Ricketts' battery, supported by a regiment of infantry, was placed in position near Stringfellow's house, so as to enfilade any force advancing against our left. The other four guns of Captain Ricketts were placed behind the crest near Captain Arnold's position, ready to come into battery at any moment if needed. At the same time the Second Division, Brigadier-General Webb commanding, was advanced to within a short distance of the river, while the First Division was in the edge of the woods.

Between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon Major-General Warren arrived on the ground and took command of the corps. I resumed command of my division, and by command of General Warren sent the remainder of the First Brigade to the support of the section of artillery at Stringfellow's house.

During the 7th my division was not engaged, and at sunset we returned to camp.

The gallantry of General Hays, whose division did all the fighting, was conspicuous. His report will doubtless give you a list of his officers who distinguished themselves. If the object of our movement was to make a demonstration merely, and cause the enemy to mass a large force in our front, I am confident it was entirely successful.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CALDWELL,

*Brig. Gen., U. S. Volunteers, Commanding First Division.*

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 4.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander S. Webb, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.*

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*February* 13, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that this division left its camp at 8.30 a. m. on the 6th instant, having been ready to march at 7 a. m. Proceeding to Morton's Ford, it was held in reserve, by order of Brigadier-General Caldwell, before and during the engagement of the Third Division with the enemy. At about 6 p. m. Major-General Warren directed that one brigade of this division should re-enforce Brigadier-General Hays. The First Brigade was detailed for this duty, and was posted on the right of Colonel Carroll's brigade, by about 6.30 p. m., losing 2 men wounded in crossing the rough bridge built during the day. At 7 p. m. the remainder of the division was ordered over the Rapidan, and by 8 o'clock had been reported to Brigadier-General Hays by myself and posted to support his line. My own headquarters was established with General Hays in the house on the left of his line. At about 10 p. m. Major-General Warren ordered that the picket-line should be relieved by this division, and the First Brigade, Colonel Baxter commanding, was directed to deploy to the front for this purpose, and to relieve the entire line. As it was very dark this movement required some two hours, and a part of General Hays' line (the pickets of General Owen's brigade) was not relieved by Colonel Baxter, since it was reported that the brigade would not cover the whole of the front. In accordance with the directions of the major-general commanding, I directed Colonel Baxter to relieve his whole line, gradually withdrawing his command to the other side of the river, and leaving but 75 men to keep up a semblance of a picket-line. At about 12 o'clock I crossed the river. At 1.15 it was reported to me that all were across, since upon relieving the line of pickets the enemy had closed in and forced my semblance of a picket-line to retire in haste. The command returned to this camp on the night of Sunday, the 7th instant.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEX. S. WEBB,
*Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.*

Lieut. Col. FRANCIS A. WALKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 5.

*Report of Col. De Witt C. Baxter, Seventy-second Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade.*

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIV., SECOND CORPS,
*February* 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to present the following report of the operations of the First Brigade in the late reconnaissance made by the Second Corps:

In compliance with orders received on the morning of the 6th instant, the brigade moved into position on the right of the division

at 7.30 a. m., and proceeded to Morton's Ford via Stevensburg. The Third Division of the Second Corps having crossed part of its command, the remaining portion was formed in line, in an open field, in full view of the enemy, this brigade forming the second line, also in full view, about 100 paces in the rear, with its left resting on the road leading to the ford. The Third Division having been thrown across the river, this brigade was moved forward upon the ground they left. In this position it remained until about 7 o'clock in the evening, when it was conducted by the right flank across the river, and joined upon the right of Colonel Carroll's brigade to the Third Division. Detachments from the Eighty-second New York, Nineteenth Maine, and Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteers were immediately deployed as skirmishers, connecting with Carroll's line, prolonging it to the right nearly to the river.

It was now so dark that objects could not be distinguished at 10 paces. About 10 o'clock received orders to relieve all the skirmishers belonging to the Third (General Hays') Division. In consequence of the extreme darkness, and an evident error on the part of some of the officers of the Third Division line, much time was lost and great risk was occasioned in executing this order. The Fourth Ohio Volunteers were promptly and properly relieved, they remaining at their posts until relieved, all the others having withdrawn before being relieved, making it necessary to establish a new line, the direction of which could not be correctly ascertained on account of the darkness. Once the line was conducted to within less than 20 paces of the enemy's line, and, if it had not have drawn their fire, would in all probability have marched into and beyond their line without discovering the mistake in time to avert serious danger.

All the troops having been withdrawn to the north side of the river, none were left but the skirmish line. General Webb being upon the ground, directed the necessary arrangements for the withdrawal of these, which was done as nearly as possible as directed, in doing which a detachment of 75 men from the Nineteenth Maine Volunteers, under the command of Captain Nash, was stationed about the house and grounds lately occupied as the headquarters of General Hays. Detachments from the Fifteenth Massachusetts, Nineteenth Maine, and Eighty-second New York Volunteers, numbering about 150 men, were posted about 100 rods to the south and west of the ford, on the brow of a hill. Those at the house were ordered to remain about two hours and a half, if not molested, and then quietly fall back to within 100 rods of the bridge at the ford, and there remain until daylight; but if attacked, both detachments were ordered to fall back in good order and cross the bridge, but to make all reasonable resistance without risking a capture. To insure the safety of these men another detachment of about 30 men, under command of Captain Spaulding, was posted about 20 rods in front of the bridge, deployed, with instructions to hold the bridge until all the others should cross. Another detachment of about 50 men, under command of Captain Hamilton, of the One hundred and fifty-second New York Volunteers, was posted upon the island and along the left bank of the river covering the island, with instructions to act on the defensive, but not to leave their position on the river without orders. The rest of the brigade was now withdrawn as quietly as possible to the north side of the river, and reoccupied the ground they had left in the evening before crossing. This was about 2.30 o'clock in the morning (the 7th).

The enemy, discovering the withdrawal of the line on part of their front, made an advance; but coming in contact with the left of the detachment under Captain Cummings they opened fire, which was instantly returned, and had the effect to check their movements in that direction. Finding them making an effort to turn his flank, Captain Cummings quietly fell back to the bridge and crossed to the island, from which he was ordered to rejoin his regiment. Captain Nash, finding the enemy encroaching and his friends on his right gone, also fell back, and was ordered to his regiment. Captain Spaulding, seeing the last of the other detachments pass the bridge, crossed with his command also. The pickets on the island and left bank of the river remained—those on the island until daylight.

In about a half hour after the last detachment crossed the bridge a mounted soldier approached the bridge to the very abutment, when he was fired on from the island. The shot was thought to have taken effect, as he exclaimed as though wounded, turned to the rear, and left in a few minutes. About a dozen mounted men approached the river, opposite the island, and fired, when those upon the island returned the fire and drove them off. They then sent a strong body of skirmishers and filled the rifle-pits. At this Captain Hamilton withdrew his pickets from the island, but not without exchanging shots with the enemy. Captain Hamilton remained on duty, guarding the ford all day. At 6.30 p. m. the brigade was ordered back to camp, where they arrived about 9.30.

The total loss in this brigade was 2 wounded—Sergt. J. N. Hinkley and Private James F. Chase, both of the Nineteenth Maine Volunteers.

Nine muskets, abandoned by the enemy in the morning, were placed in charge of Lieutenant West, of the One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, with instructions to turn them over to his division commander.

With much respect,

D. W. C. BAXTER,
*Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.*

Capt. J. P. WOOD,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division.*

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No. 6.

*Report of Capt. William H. Fogler, Nineteenth Maine Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS NINETEENTH MAINE VOLUNTEERS,
*Near Stevensburg, Va., February* 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of this regiment during the 6th and 7th instant:

We left our present camp at 7 a. m. February 6, 1864, the third regiment of the brigade in the line of march. Were moved to a point near Morton's Ford, on the north bank of the Rapidan; arrived there about 11 a. m. Remained in line with the rest of the brigade during the passage of the Third Division across the river, and until dark, when we received orders to cross the river at the bridge, which was accomplished. We were placed in position on the left of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Regiment, about half a mile from the river, and some 10 rods to the right of the road, which runs perpendicularly to the river from the bridge. At once received

orders to place skirmishers 100 yards in our front, which was done, Companies D, Lieutenant Pierce, and F, Captain Starbird, commanding, being selected for that duty. About 9 p. m. received orders to detail two companies for same duty, who were to be deployed on the right of the Eighty-second New York's detail of skirmishers, and to extend from their line to the river at a point about 80 rods above the bridge. Companies B, Captain Parsons, and G, Captain Whitehouse, were detailed for this purpose, and reported to a staff officer of brigade, who conducted them to their position.

About 10.30 p. m. I received orders from Colonel Baxter, commanding brigade, to deploy the remaining six companies as skirmishers on the left of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, which had previously been deployed. Our line was to extend from the large house just in front of the left of the line of the Fifteenth Massachusetts to the house on the hill, to the left of the main road before mentioned, our line running across the open field. This order was executed as soon as practicable.

At 1 a. m. of the 7th instant, received orders to fall back, form the regiment, and return to the north bank of the river. I did so with four companies, the other two having been taken by Colonel Baxter for the following duties: Company C, Captain Nash, to remain on the original skirmish line, with instructions to fall back if pressed hard before two hours, and to return at any rate at the expiration of that time to the north bank of the river and rejoin the regiment. Company A, Captain Spaulding, was directed to form a line near the bridge, on the left of the road, to support the skirmishers, and to remain until the skirmish line fell back. At 2 a. m. we were in our first position on the north bank of the river. The companies that were left on the other side rejoined the regiment about 3 a. m. We occupied this line until 7 p. m., when we received orders to return to camp, where we arrived at 10 p. m.

Our whole loss was 2 men wounded; none killed or missing. Both men wounded were hit while crossing the bridge by stray bullets.

The conduct of both officers and men of the entire regiment was excellent throughout.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. FOGLER,
*Captain, Commanding Nineteenth Maine Regiment.*

Capt. J. E. CURTISS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 7.

*Report of Capt. Samuel J. Fletcher, Fifteenth Massachusetts Infantry.*

HDQRS. FIFTEENTH MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT,
*February* 7, 1864.

SIR: I herewith send you a report of the movements of this regiment for the last two days:

We left camp February 6, at 7 a. m., with field and staff of captain, adjutant, surgeon, and assistant surgeon, and 128 enlisted men with rifles, and 6 musicians, and joined the brigade at brigade headquarters. Our place in the brigade was second regiment. We reached the Rapidan about 11, and formed line of battle and stacked arms,

with the Eighty-second New York on our right and the Nineteenth Maine on our left.

About noon we marched toward the enemy in line by echelon, and halted quite near the river, and we, with the brigade, marched by the flank and crossed the river and formed line of battle immediately. I sent out one company as skirmishers to cover the front of the regiment. About 10 p. m., whole command, in connection with the remainder of the brigade, was sent to the front to relieve the line of skirmishers formed by the Third Division. The center of my command was in the rear and close to the house and outbuildings, a short distance to the right of the house occupied as General Hays' headquarters. These outbuildings were occupied by the enemy, as we found by receiving occasional shots from them. About 12 p. m., the larger part of the skirmishers were withdrawn and recrossed the river.

My whole command, except one company, was now on this side of the river, and we occupied the position held at sundown. About 2 a. m. the company left on the other side of the river was withdrawn and rejoined the regiment. We remained on the ground the remainder of the night and during the day of February 7. At dark we started on the march to camp, which we reached about 9 p. m. My whole command returned with me, not a man being wounded.

My whole command, with the exception of two men who did not cross the river with us, did all that could be expected of officers or men. The men are all in good condition and spirits.

I remain, with respect, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL J. FLETCHER,
*Captain, Commanding Regiment.*

Colonel BAXTER,
*Commanding First Brigade.*

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No. 8.

*Report of Col. Henry W. Hudson, Eighty-second New York Infantry.*

HDQRS. 82D REGIMENT NEW YORK STATE VOLS.,
*Camp near Stevensburg, Va., February 8, 1864.*

SIR: In obedience to orders from brigade headquarters, I most respectfully submit the following report of the part this regiment has taken in the recent operations on the Rapidan River:

On the morning of February 6, 1864, left camp near Stevensburg, in line with First Brigade, Second Division, Second Army Corps, and proceeded to Morton's Ford, arriving in vicinity of the ford about 11 a. m., forming in line of battle on the Raccoon Ford road, then marching en echelon by battalion toward and within 400 yards of the river, where we halted until about 5.30 p. m., when we crossed the river and halted 40 paces in rear of the line of skirmishers of the Third Brigade, Third Division, Second Corps, deploying the right company as skirmishers, connecting the left to the right of the Fourth Ohio Volunteers, Colonel Carroll's brigade, establishing the extreme right of the picket-line. At about 9 p. m. the remaining portion of my command was ordered to relieve the line of pickets in our front, which duty we performed, relieving the Fourth Ohio Volunteers, where we remained until about 12 p. m., when we withdrew the center of the line of pickets and recrossed the river, leaving Company

H, Capt. Thomas Cummings commanding, to hold the right until daybreak, arriving on the ground previously occupied by us about 1.30 p. m., remaining there until 6 p. m. of the 7th, when we took up the line of march for camp, arriving at 9 p. m. No casualties.

Very respectfully,

H. W. HUDSON,
*Colonel.*

Capt. J. E. CURTISS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 9.

*Report of Lieut. Col. George W. Thompson, One hundred and fifty-second New York Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS 152D NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
*Near Stevensburg, Va., February* 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of this command in the late expedition across the Rapidan:

The command left camp at 7 o'clock on the morning of the 6th instant, and proceeded via Stevensburg to a point opposite Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan River; formed line of battle on the left of the brigade, remained there about one hour, then moved forward in line about 100 rods, where we remained until about 7 o'clock p. m., at which time we moved by the right flank across the river at the ford, and proceeded in a southwesterly direction about 150 rods, and again formed line of battle, and remained in position until about 12 p. m. The battalion was then deployed as skirmishers, and commenced advancing, when we were ordered to and did reform and return to the north side of the river, leaving Captain Hamilton with 50 men on the island near the ford. The balance of the battalion proceeded to the position last occupied before crossing the river. Captain Hamilton and the men left with him remained on and near the island doing picket duty until 3.30 p. m. yesterday, when he was relieved and rejoined the regiment. Last evening, at 7 o'clock, we left this last position and returned to camp, arriving about 9 p. m.

Very respectfully,

G. W. THOMPSON,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. J. E. CURTISS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 10.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander Hays, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division.*

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*February* 13, 1864.

COLONEL: In compliance with instructions, I have the honor to report the operations of the division which I had the honor to command on the 6th and 7th instant:

In obedience to circular, headquarters Second Army Corps, my division moved from cantonment and proceeded to Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan. Arriving in view of the river, and the enemy

giving no evidence of opposition, it was deemed advisable to test his position and strength. Under instructions from the general commanding the corps, I directed Brig. Gen. J. T. Owen, commanding the Third Brigade, to select and throw forward as skirmishers 300 of the best veteran troops of his command. A rapid dash brought them across the Rapidan, although the river was cold and deep. The ford was defended by rifle-pits and unfinished abatis. It was, however, carried without the loss of a man and the capture of 30 of the rebels. Advancing to the ridge beyond, everything was carried for three quarters of a mile to a position giving us a full view of the enemy's camps and intrenchments. Deeming it necessary to support my advance, I applied for and was re-enforced with the remaining force of my division. The position was held during the remainder of the day's light, but as night closed upon us we were spiritedly attacked by the rebels on the right and left flanks. Their attacks were gallantly and successfully repulsed, and at 6 p. m. quiet was restored with our occupation of our entire position.

I regret to forward such a long list of casualties, but it is solely attributable to the faltering of two regiments of conscripts or substitutes comprising the Fourteenth Connecticut and Thirty-ninth New York Volunteers. If supported by our whole corps I have not the least doubt that we would have been enabled to capture the whole force of the rebels, including camps and artillery, with less loss than we have suffered. I would respectfully refer you to the accompanying reports of subordinate commanders, and can only commend them to the general commanding the army and the War Department, awaiting an opportunity to set forth their particular claims. I inclose a list* of killed, wounded, and missing. None of our dead or wounded were left upon the field.

From reliable information obtained I am satisfied a large rebel force concentrated at Morton's Ford to oppose us on the succeeding day. We recrossed the Rapidan on the 6th and returned to our present camps on the 7th instant.

I have neglectfully failed to call especial attention and notice to the conduct of the Seventh Regiment West Virginia Volunteers, commanded by Lieut. Col. J. H. Lockwood, of the First Brigade, distinguished always among the first and foremost in battle. They, with their gallant leader, had re-enlisted for three years. The order for their return to their homes had been received and published. With a resolve to assist their old comrades in another day's trial they marched with us and returned, bearing with them to their homes 1 commissioned officer and 10 enlisted men wounded. I ask recognition of my staff, First Lieut. J. S. Sullivan, Fourteenth Indiana Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant-general, whose horse was severely wounded; Second Lieut. David Shields, Sixty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, aide-de-camp, severely wounded twice; Capt. J. C. Lynch, One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, whose hat was blown from his head; Lieut. W. E. Potter, acting judge-advocate, and Lieut. John M. Fogg, acting ordnance officer, rendered efficient aid.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEX. HAYS,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.*

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

* Embodied in statement, p. 118.

No. 11.

*Report of Col. Samuel S. Carroll, Eighth Ohio Infantry, commanding First Brigade.*

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
*February 9*, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the brigade which I have the honor to command in the late movement across the Rapidan:

About 12.30 p. m. on the 6th instant I received orders from General Hays, commanding division, to cross the Rapidan at Morton's Ford and support General Owen's brigade; accordingly, crossed the river, wading waist deep, and marched toward the Third Brigade. As the head of each regimental column appeared on the hill the enemy opened upon it with artillery, but with no effect. By General Owen's direction I massed the brigade behind a hill on the right of the Third Brigade. We remained in this position until after 5 p. m., when the enemy commenced shelling our position, their missiles, however, going over us. At the same time they advanced a line of skirmishers and threw down a column as if to get around our right flank and obtain possession of the road. So soon as I discovered this movement I moved my command by the right flank to check it. While moving we were exposed to quite a severe fire of artillery and infantry, doing us some damage. Immediately I got into position to prevent their turning our flank. I moved about 50 yards to the rear, so as to cover the men from fire, and threw out skirmishers, who engaged the enemy. The firing was continued until some time after dark, when it entirely ceased. We remained in this position until 10.30 p. m., when I received orders from General Hays to cross the river, leaving my skirmishers out. I did so, and bivouacked in the woods to the right of the house occupied as corps headquarters. Shortly afterward the skirmishers crossed over. We remained in this position until about sunset on the 7th, when we received orders to march back to camp, which we did, arriving there about 8 p. m.

I brought off all my killed and wounded to the hospital, established on this side, before we recrossed the river. The officers and men of my command behaved in their usual cool and gallant manner. I am indebted to the members of my staff for their assistance in the field. Captains Butterfield and Gregg, Eighth Ohio Volunteers, had charge of the skirmish line and managed it well.

I append herewith a list of casualties, and inclose the reports of the regimental commanders:

| Regiments. | Commissioned officers. | | Enlisted men. | | Aggregate. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Killed. | Wounded. | Killed. | Wounded. | |
| 4th Ohio Volunteers | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17 | 17 |
| 8th Ohio Volunteers | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| Battalion 7th West Virginia Volunteers | ..... | 1 | ..... | 10 | 11 |
| 14th Indiana Volunteers | ..... | 2 | 2 | 11 | 15 |
| Total | ..... | 5 | 2 | 38 | 45 |

Sir, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. CARROLL,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

Lieut. J. S. SULLIVAN, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 12.

*Report of Col. Charles J. Powers, One hundred and eighth New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.*

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*February* 10, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the part taken by my command in the reconnaissance made by the corps to Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan River, the 6th and 7th instant, and in the action across the river on the 6th instant:

In compliance with circular order received from division headquarters at 5.30 a. m. of the 6th instant, the command was formed in line on the Morton's Ford [road], 1 mile north of the ford, at 8 a. m. of that day, the men supplied with three days' rations in haversack and 40 rounds of ammunition, and there awaited the arrival of the division. On its arrival its position was taken in rear of the First Brigade, same division, which at once moved down the Morton's Ford road to the ford. After a crossing had been effected, and the Third and First Brigades, Third Division, had gained possession of the south bank, under direction of the general commanding division, this brigade crossed over by fording the stream at about 1 p. m., and were directed to form in line of battle in rear of a house situated on rising ground to the left and southerly from the ford, which was not accomplished, however, without several casualties, as the enemy's artillery fire struck the column twice during its passage across the exposed ground. Behind this house the brigade lay in quiet and safety until nearly 5 p. m., when the enemy opened with a full battery from rising ground to the right and front, at a distance of about 1,000 yards, and immediately following with an impetuous attack of his infantry upon the skirmish line occupied by part of the Third Brigade, the right of which line was driven. By direction of the division commander the brigade was immediately advanced to the crest of the hill, the Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers to retrieve the lost skirmish ground and support the line, the Twelfth New Jersey Volunteers moving to the front but obliquely to the balance of the command, consisting of the One hundred and eighth New York Volunteers, First Delaware Volunteers, and Tenth New York Battalion, which lay down along the crest and near the house. The attack of the enemy was very persistent and continued. The Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers were being pressed hard, and it was found necessary to send still to that point the One hundred and eighth and Tenth New York Volunteers, when they together made a firm advance of a good 500 yards and drove the enemy from a group of small houses and trees. It was now quite dark, and after a considerable musketry of half an hour longer all firing ceased. At 10 p. m. the line was relieved by the Second Division of the corps, and under orders the brigade recrossed the river without molestation, and took position in line fronting the river, about 1,500 yards to the left of the Morton's Ford road, with orders to remain and arrest any attack of the enemy. Here they remained until dark of the 7th, when the corps returned to its camp left on the morning of the 6th, I being ordered to leave a strong force to picket the front and guard the ford until morning. In this duty I detailed the Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers, consisting of about 250 men under Lieut.

Col. S. A. Moore. And now the command is safely in their old camp, in a better condition as to health than before those two days of exposure in deep streams, inclement weather, and the close engagement of a formidable enemy.

To distinguish between the conduct of the different officers and men of the command, where all were at their posts, is difficult. The Fourteenth Connecticut, One hundred and eighth New York, and Tenth Battalion deserve great credit for the heavy fighting they did, driving a superior force of the enemy and frequently using the bayonet. Lieut. Col. T. H. Davis, Lieut. Col. F. E. Pierce, Lieut. Col. S. A. Moore, Captain Dewey, and Captain Tait, commanding, respectively, the Twelfth New Jersey, One hundred and eighth New York, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers, Tenth New York Battalion, and First Delaware Battalion, did their whole duty. Capt. W. H. Andrews, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. W. H. Hawley, acting assistant inspector-general, and Lieutenants Porter and Du Bois, aides-de-camp, on my staff, I desire to mention as having made themselves distinguished by their bearing and coolness before the enemy.

A nominal list of casualties, as corrected, accompanies this. It may be summed up in numbers as follows:

| Regiments | Killed. | | Wounded. | | Missing. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. |
| 108th New York | ..... | ..... | 1 | 6 | ..... | ..... |
| 14th Connecticut Volunteers | ..... | 6 | 7 | 83 | 1 | 18 |
| 12th New Jersey Volunteers | ..... | ..... | ..... | 11 | ..... | ..... |
| Battalion 10th New York Volunteers | ..... | 1 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... |
| 1st Delaware Volunteers | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 | ..... | 4 |
| Total | ..... | 7 | 8 | 108 | 1 | 22 |

Killed, 7; wounded, 116; missing, 23. Aggregate loss, 146.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHARLES J. POWERS,
*Colonel 108th New York Vols., Comdg. Brigade.*

Lieut. JOHN S. SULLIVAN,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 13.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Samuel A. Moore, Fourteenth Connecticut Infantry.*

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
*February* 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this regiment in the action of the 6th near Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan:

At about 1 p. m. on Saturday, the 6th, the brigade to which this regiment is attached was ordered to cross the Rapidan at Morton's Ford. This was effected in good order by fording the river, which

at that point is nearly waist deep, and with but little opposition from the enemy. As the regiment, however, moved over the crest of the first hill they opened a shell fire upon us, but without causing us any loss, as their aim was a little too high. About half a mile from the ford the regiment took up its position with the rest of the brigade under the slope of a hill and in rear of a small white house. Here we remained in line of battle, being occasionally shelled by the enemy until about 5 p. m. At this time the rebels made an attack upon our position, and this regiment was ordered out to the support of the skirmish line, commanded by Colonel Baird.

The regiment advanced upon the enemy deployed as skirmishers, and drove back their line of battle for upward of half a mile to a place where there were about a dozen small houses and out-buildings situated in a grove of trees. Here the enemy made a stand, and the regiment fought them hand to hand, in some cases using the bayonet, until the One hundred and eighth New York Volunteers and the battalion of the Tenth New York coming to our aid enabled us to drive them from the buildings. We held this point for upward of an hour until ordered to withdraw to our former position, which we did, leaving a strong picket to keep the enemy from advancing while we were carrying off our dead and wounded. We brought off all of the dead and wounded whom we could find, but owing to the darkness of the night some probably escaped our search. At about 11 p. m. we recrossed the river, taking our dead and wounded with us. Our brigade then took up a position near the ford to check any movement of the enemy in case they should attempt to cross to our side. Here we remained until the night of the 7th, when the troops of the Second Corps returned to their former camping-grounds, leaving the Fourteenth to guard the crossing at Morton's Ford during the night. At about 11 a. m. to-day we were relieved and returned to camp.

Our casualties in engagement were as follows:*

Capt. F. B. Doten, of Company F, while trying to capture a party of rebels in one of the houses, was himself taken prisoner. The officers and men in almost every case behaved themselves in such a manner as to reflect credit upon themselves and upon the command.

I remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. A. MOORE,
*Lieut. Col., Comdg. Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers.*

[Capt. WILLIAM H. ANDREWS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*]

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No. 14.

*Report of Capt. George M. Dewey, Tenth New York Battalion Infantry.*

HDQRS. TENTH BATTALION NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
*February* 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward the following report of the part taken by this command in the action of the 6th instant:

We left camp about 9 o'clock on the morning of the 6th instant, taking our position on the left of the brigade line; crossed the

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 6 killed, 90 wounded, and 19 missing; total, 115.

Rapidan at Morton's Ford in the early part of the afternoon, and took position in line of battle upon a slight eminence about 1 mile from the ford, under a fire from the enemy's battery stationed opposite our right.

Just before dark the enemy opened upon our line with artillery and musketry. We were advanced about 20 yards, taking position on the crest of the hill upon the left of the One hundred and eighth Regiment New York State Volunteers. Here one of our men was struck in the knee by a minie-ball; he has since died. Shortly after dark we were ordered to advance with the One hundred and eighth New York Volunteers and capture a house about 500 yards to our front, and at this time held and occupied by the enemy's skirmishers. Captain Everett, of the One hundred and eighth, took command and we silently advanced in line, crossing several ravines and scaling a high fence. Upon arriving at the house we were ordered to fire and charge, and a terrible volley was poured into the house, which was followed by a charge from our line, driving the enemy from the buildings and adjacent ground.

After reforming, this command was ordered to the rear and to its position of the afternoon. A few minutes after our arrival at the position in question we were ordered by General Owen, and afterward by General Hays, to convey the wounded from the barn occupied as a hospital to the ford. We were occupied at this work until after our division had left the field. Every wounded man was removed from the hospital. No stretchers were sent from this side of the river to the hospital of the Second Brigade, and we were compelled to remove the wounded upon extemporized conveyances of blankets, boards, &c. I crossed the river with a remnant of the men of my command about an hour after the last of the division had crossed, and rejoined the brigade early next morning.

During the action we lost 3 wounded; 1 of these has since died, and another suffered amputation of a foot.

My command numbered 4 commissioned officers and 65 enlisted men. Thirty of these men were recruits who had not handled a musket until a day or two previous. They were first drilled in loading and firing on the morning of the 6th instant before leaving camp. It is owing to the perseverance and bravery of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, and some of the older soldiers of the command, that they acquitted themselves so well during the afternoon and morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE M. DEWEY,
*Captain, Commanding Battalion.*

Capt. W. H. ANDREWS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 15.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Joshua T. Owen, U. S. Army, commanding Third Brigade.*

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*February* 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders from division headquarters I left camp at 7 a. m. on the 6th instant and

marched in the direction of Morton's Ford, arriving within a half a mile thereof at 9.35 a. m. I halted my troops and massed them in column by regiments, concealed from the enemy's pickets, and awaited further orders. At 10.30 a. m., by direction of the general commanding the division, I moved toward the river, under orders to effect a crossing and to skirmish with the enemy if he were so disposed, but not to press him too hard, as it was not desired to bring on an engagement, but simply to make a demonstration. I threw forward 300 of my best troops, under command of my assistant adjutant-general, Captain Seabury, with directions to cross the river, drive the enemy's skirmishers from their rifle-pits, and advance toward the heights beyond, deployed at such intervals as circumstances might require. As the head of the advance column approached the place of crossing some 80 of the enemy's pickets opened a rapid but ill-directed fire upon it. A landing on the other side was effected, and the rifle-pits immediately attacked and carried with slight loss. The enemy retreated in confusion, leaving in our hands as prisoners 28 privates, 2 lieutenants, and a number of small-arms.

I immediately followed after with the main column. I advanced toward Morton's houses, located upon high and commanding positions, in the direction of the enemy's works, my skirmishers meanwhile driving the enemy rapidly before them. Having gained these positions I made my arrangements to hold them and halted the line of skirmishers. Immediately thereafter the enemy advanced a stronger line of skirmishers, and began rapidly to concentrate his troops immediately in my front, and opened a vigorous fire both of infantry and artillery.

At 12.30 p. m. I telegraphed across the river that a heavy column of infantry was moving into position toward my left, and requested that another brigade might be sent across. I changed the disposition of my troops so as to counteract the enemy's apparent intention to turn my left flank. At 1.15 p. m. Colonel Carroll, commanding the First Brigade, reported to me. His troops were massed under cover from the enemy's fire and held in reserve. Judging that the enemy had already assembled about 4,000 troops in my front, and that large bodies of men were still moving from the direction of Clark's Mountain, I requested that another brigade might be sent across the river, and at 2.15 p. m. Colonel Powers, commanding the Second Brigade, reported to me. His troops were deployed in line of battle and placed under cover. At 3.45 p. m., the enemy having extended his lines of battle and skirmishers to the right and left and increased the vigor of his fire, indicated an intention to attack, and at 4.30 p. m. began to advance, his main attack being directed against the two houses before mentioned, combining therewith a movement of a heavy column toward our right, with the intention of cutting off our communication with Morton's Ford. The general commanding the division assumed command in person, and led on the troops to repel this attack, and by his direction I took command on the left and repelled the attack on that flank. By 6 p. m. the enemy was repulsed at all points without gaining any advantage. At 7.50 p. m. I was directed to recross the river with such of my troops as were not on duty as pickets, and informed that my whole line of pickets would be forthwith relieved by General Webb and follow after me. I left Captain Seabury, my assistant adjutant-general, in charge, with directions to retire by the left flank when

relieved. I regret to say the line was not relieved, and my pickets were the last to recross the river, which was accomplished, however, without loss at 1 a. m.

I need hardly say that I am satisfied with the conduct of the brigade. The passage of the river under the circumstances was calculated to put to a severe test the bravery and fortitude of the troops. To have been accomplished with so little loss is especially creditable to them, as indicating the good order and impetuosity with which it was done.

I beg to make honorable mention of the following officers: Capt. R. S. Seabury, my assistant adjutant-general, in command of the skirmishers, for the gallant manner in which he crossed the river, being the first on the other side, and for the good judgment displayed in conducting the line of skirmishers to the front; Lieut. Col. William H. Baird, of the One hundred and twenty-sixth Regiment New York Volunteers, for gallantly maintaining his ground on the skirmish line during the whole afternoon; also the officers with the 300 men (for whose names I refer you to the reports of the regimental commanders) for the efficient manner in which they managed their commands; Colonel Crandell, of the One hundred and twenty-fifth Regiment; Col. James M. Bull, of the One hundred and twenty-sixth; Lieutenant-Colonel Lusk, of the One hundred and eleventh, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes, of the Thirty-ninth, for the promptness with which they executed orders; Capt. Joseph Hyde, assistant inspector-general on my staff, and Lieut. P. C. Rogers, acting aide-de-camp, for the valuable assistance rendered by them.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA T. OWEN,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

Lieut. JOHN S. SULLIVAN,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 16.

*Report of Lieut. Col. James G. Hughes, Thirty-ninth New York Infantry.*

HDQRS. THIRTY-NINTH REGIMENT NEW YORK VOLS.,
*February* 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the part this regiment (Thirty-ninth New York Volunteers) took in the reconnaissance of the 6th day of February, 1864:

The regiment left camp on the 6th instant at 7 a. m., with 18 officers and 390 men under my command. I detailed Captains Baer and Schwickardi to command all the old soldiers of the regiment (100 in number) as skirmishers to cross the Rapidan River, which they did in gallant style, driving the enemy from their rifle-pits and capturing 15 prisoners. The regiment was the second to form line on the opposite side of the river. It marched in line of battle to within gunshot of the enemy's skirmishers. About 12 m. I changed front to the right and took position on the Morton's Ford road. About 5 p. m. I was ordered to form line of battle to the right of General Hays' headquarters, under a heavy fire of the enemy, which

was done very promptly considering that the men under my command were never under fire before and not two months in service.

My loss was 1 enlisted man killed, 17 wounded, and 17 missing. Lieut. L. Derndinger was severely wounded in the left arm while on the skirmish line.

I take pleasure in making honorable mention of First Lieut. John McE. Hyde, acting adjutant of the regiment, who rendered me excellent service on the field; also Captains Baer and Schwickardi and Lieutenant Derndinger, for gallantry; also Chief Bugler Anton Rang, for bravery on the skirmish line. I recrossed the Rapidan at 1 a. m. next day.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES G. HUGHES,
*Lieut. Col., Comdg. Thirty-ninth New York Volunteers.*

Capt. R. S. SEABURY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 17.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Isaac M. Lusk, One hundred and eleventh New York Infantry.*

HDQRS. 111TH REGIMENT NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
*Dumpling Mountain, Va., February* 9, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the reconnaissance of the 6th instant:

At 7 a. m., in obedience to orders from corps headquarters, this regiment took up its line of march with the brigade in the direction of Morton's Ford, the vicinity of which was reached between 10 and 11 o'clock. Here the column halted while a detachment from the One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, led by Capt. R. S. Seabury, assistant adjutant-general Third Brigade, was sent forward to seize the ford and force a passage, which having been accomplished, the column moved forward and effected a crossing with considerable difficulty, owing to the strong current and depth of water (which reached the waists of the men) and the steep and slippery banks. After crossing, the regiment moved forward with the brigade and took possession of an eminence about three-fourths of a mile southeast from the ford, on which were a house and outbuildings. We were ordered, in case of an attack, to occupy and hold this house and out-buildings at all hazards. About 3 p. m. the regiment was ordered to support that portion of the skirmish line held by the Thirty-ninth New York Volunteers on the left of our line. The regiment remained in position as a reserve until about 5 p. m., when the skirmishers of the enemy, having been heavily re-enforced, moved forward and commenced a rapid firing. The regiment immediately deployed and returned the fire with such effect that though the enemy outnumbered us 3 to 1 his advance was stopped, and he was held in check until night put an end to the conflict. About midnight, in obedience to orders received through Colonel Crandell, of the One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, I withdrew the regiment and recrossed the Rapidan.

Throughout the whole affair the conduct of both officers and men was such as to merit my highest approbation. Though suffering severely from cold, wet, and fatigue they performed every duty and

faced danger with a zeal and courage worthy of their past reputation. Although subjected from the commencement to the end of the fight to an enfilading fire from the right and left, besides a direct fire from the front, our loss was only 1 wounded and 2 missing.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. M. LUSK,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. 111th New York Volunteers.*

Capt. R. S. SEABURY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 18.

*Report of Col. Levin Crandell, One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS 125TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
*February* 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the One hundred and twenty-fifth Regiment New York Volunteers, in the reconnaissance made by the Second Corps on the 6th instant:

Orders to be in readiness to march at 7 o'clock were received on the morning of the 6th instant at about 4.30 o'clock. The regiment was in readiness and took up the march promptly at 7 o'clock; arrived at the cavalry camp, near Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan, at 10.30 a. m.; there was ordered to furnish 100 men to lead as skirmishers across the ford. One hundred non-commissioned officers and men were furnished, together with the following commissioned officers, who accompanied the skirmishers, to wit: Capt. John Quay, Lieut. E. B. Hull, Lieut. B. G. Barto, Lieut. E. O'Connor, Lieut. M. B. Miller, and Lieut. E. S. P. Clapp. The skirmishers advanced and crossed Morton's Ford at 11 o'clock, gallantly led by Capt. R. S. Seabury, assistant adjutant-general, who was the first to cross the stream. The enemy's pickets, to the number of 60 to 80 men, lay intrenched on the opposite bank of the stream, within short range of the ford. They opened a brisk fire on the skirmishers, but effected nothing. Immediately on crossing the ford they captured and took 27 men and 2 commissioned officers prisoners; were then immediately deployed and advanced, skirmishing to the left of the ford, driving the enemy into their intrenchments, and remained in that position, skirmishing briskly at intervals, from that time until 1 o'clock the next morning, when they were ordered to withdraw from the line and recross the ford, which was done in good order. That portion of the regiment not detached as skirmishers was kept in supporting distance of the line until about dusk, the time of the general attack, when it moved forward to the skirmish line and took part in the skirmish.

Four were slightly wounded; not so as to disable them in any way, however. Both officers and men behaved admirably. In not a single instance can any exceptions be taken to the conduct of either officers or men.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEVIN CRANDELL,

*Colonel 125th Regiment New York Volunteers.*

Capt. R. S. SEABURY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 19.

*Report of Col. James M. Bull, One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS 126TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
*February* 9, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that my regiment left camp Saturday morning, the 6th instant, at 7 a. m., and formed in rear of the brigade, and proceeded on the Morton's Ford road to a point about a mile this side of the Rapidan, where the brigade halted and formed in column by battalion under cover of a piece of woods. At this point 100 men were detailed as skirmishers, comprising men of eight companies with their officers, viz, Companies A, B, D, E, F, H, I, and K. This detail, under command of Lieut. Col. William H. Baird, with the others from the brigade, marched to and crossed the Rapidan at Morton's Ford and took part in capturing about 30 rebel prisoners at or near the ford. Immediately after fording the river the skirmishers were deployed as such, and advanced and were very soon warmly engaged with those of the enemy. They continued on duty until relieved about 7 o'clock in the evening, and recrossed the river under orders about midnight.

I accompanied the detail of skirmishers across the river, where, as soon as the residue of the regiment, marching in column, reached me, I placed it, by order of General Owen, on the left of the brigade, in a road running nearly at right angles with the river. There we remained until about 6 p. m., when we moved out of the road, deployed, and strengthened the skirmish line on the left, where we remained until about 12 o'clock, when we were withdrawn and recrossed the river, joining the portion of the regiment under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Baird. Soon after we bivouacked in the woods about a mile from the river. We remained in this locality until nearly dark, when we took up our line of march, arriving in camp before 9 p. m.

It affords me great pleasure to say that the officers and men of my command, both on the march and on the field, behaved in a manner satisfactory to me and creditable to themselves.

The casualties are as follows: One killed, 19 wounded (1 of whom has since died), and 2 wounded and missing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES M. BULL,
*Colonel, Commanding Regiment.*

Capt. R. S. SEABURY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 20.

*Report of Lieut. Col. J. Albert Monroe, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, commanding Artillery Brigade.*

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*February* 11, 1864.

COLONEL: I respectfully forward the following report of operations of the Artillery Brigade the 6th and 7th instant:

In accordance with circular dated February 6, 1864, three batteries of the brigade—Arnold's (Battery A, First Rhode Island Light Artil-

lery), Thompson's (Battery C, Independent Pennsylvania Artillery), Ricketts' (Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery), temporarily under the command of Lieutenant Spence—moved from camp and joined the column near the headquarters of the Third Division. Upon arriving near Morton's Ford, Arnold's and Thompson's batteries were placed in favorable positions on the left bank of the river and above the ford, and one section of Spence's battery (the other two sections being held in reserve) sent under the command of Lieutenant Mitchell about a mile below, where it was placed in position near Stringfellow's house by Lieutenant Roebling, aide-de-camp to the commanding general. About 4.30 p. m. on the evening of the 6th Captain Arnold fired 42 shells into the enemy's works, with good effect.

On the morning of the 7th I arose at daybreak, and was surprised to find that the infantry had recrossed the river, not having been informed that the movement had taken place. Lieutenant Goddard was at once sent to withdraw the section near Stringfellow's house, but just as he arrived there the enemy's sharpshooters advanced to the bank, about 250 yards distant on the opposite side of the river, and opened an extremely sharp fire on the section, severely wounding 1 man, Private Frederick Batts. Lieutenant Mitchell, being unaware that the infantry had recrossed the river, mistook the enemy for our own men and allowed them to approach the river without withdrawing his section. At this time the regiment of infantry, which was there for the support of the section, was several hundred yards to the rear and out of supporting distance. Lieutenant Mitchell at once ordered the guns to be limbered to the rear, but the horses attached to one of the limbers becoming unmanageable, ran away, causing some confusion. So sharp was the enemy's fire that it was impossible to withdraw the guns at once, but the infantry quickly advanced and the pieces were drawn to the rear under their cover, placed in a favorable position, and a few shells fired with effect. The batteries were not employed through the day, and at night returned to camp.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. ALBERT MONROE,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Artillery.*

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 21.

*Itinerary of the Third Army Corps.**

*February* 6.—In the evening the First Division (leaving baggage, &c., in camp) marched toward Raccoon Ford, encamping near Pony Mountain for the night. The Second Division marched to the vicinity of Morton's Ford on the Rapidan, passing through Stevensburg, to support the Second Corps. No casualties. Returned to camp. At 4 p. m. the Third Division moved off in the direction of Culpeper Court-House, where the division arrived at dark and continued the march until 9 p. m.; halted and bivouacked for the night about 4 miles south of Culpeper Court-House.

* From monthly return.

*February 7.*—The First Division marched about 2 miles nearer the ford, and at about 5 p. m. returned under orders to its winter quarters. The Third Division at 7 a. m. resumed the march in the direction of Mitchell's Station, in the vicinity of which the division arrived at 10 a. m. and halted; remained until sunset, when orders came to return to camp, where the division arrived at 11 p. m.

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No. 22.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, Cavalry Corps.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Barnett's Ford, February 7*, 1864.

Arrived here last evening late. Chapman's brigade last night found but little opposition on approaching ford. I am starting now to feel the enemy. Lomax is here below near Peyton's Ford. But little loss yet. There is danger of my return being interfered with by infantry unless ours keeps up demonstration. The roads are in very horrible condition, much worse than I expected. This will be telegraphed from Culpeper. Please communicate.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*February 9*, 1864.

COLONEL: I submit the following report of the operations of this division during the recent demonstrations:

The division moved as ordered on the morning of the 6th, crossing the Robertson River in two columns, at Smoot's or Hume's Ford and at Aylor's Ford, where the enemy's cavalry pickets were driven in. These retired before the command, offering but slight resistance, to the Rapidan, which river was reached about 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 6th. Owing to the heavy roads and obstructions which had to be cleared away for the passage of the artillery, the Reserve Brigade and battery did not get up in time to do anything on the 6th.

Colonel Chapman's command, consisting of parts of the First and Second Brigades, moved up to the ford with but little opposition, finding only cavalry (Lomax's brigade of three regiments) on this side. It was driven across the river and the banks were picketed by our troops that night. Early in the morning of the 7th the artillery and a greater portion of the cavalry moved on Barnett's Ford, when brisk skirmishing with small-arms and a lively duel was kept up by the artillery of Gibbs' brigade with that of the enemy until after midday.

The enemy did not show much infantry till a movement was made by us to cross the ford, when a brigade, which a deserter reported five regiments strong, moved down to the ford to support the skirmishers occupying the defenses on the south bank. Another camp

of about a brigade, located to our right looking toward the ford, did not display any troops at all. The enemy appeared to desire to be quiet and made no unnecessary noise or demonstration. It was not until my artillery opened that the other side showed any, but then the enemy fired very rapidly from two positions about a mile apart, the guns in one battery being heavy artillery. The demonstration was kept up until 1 p. m. on the 7th, when receiving orders to return I did so, recrossing the Robertson by Clark's and Aylor's Fords. The enemy did not molest us on our return and the command arrived in camp the same evening, without other loss than the killed and wounded, a list of which I inclose. But 5 prisoners were made. The country through which we passed is rich and productive. There seems to be considerable forage yet in shock on the farms between the two rivers. From 12 to 15 head of beef-cattle were brought in by the command. There was not much hard fighting, but enough to show that the men and officers of the division had lost none of the spirit of last year's campaign. Colonel Chapman's command pressed forward vigorously, giving Lomax, with his little brigade, no time to rest even in the strongest positions, and Captain Ash, of the Fifth Cavalry, made a spirited charge with his squadron driving more than his number of the enemy's infantry out of a peculiarly strong place.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.*

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps Headquarters.*

*Return of casualties in First Cavalry Division in reconnaissance to Barnett's Ford.*

| Command. | Killed. | | Wounded. | | Captured or missing. | | Aggregate. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | |
| 8th New York Cavalry | | 3 | | 4 | | | 7 |
| 1st U. S. Cavalry | | | | 2 | | | 2 |
| 5th U. S. Cavalry | | | 1 | 5 | | | 6 |
| Total | | 3 | 1 | 11 | | | 15 |

## No. 23.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*February 7*, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions from headquarters Cavalry Corps, I proceeded, on the morning of the 6th, with a portion of my division (1,360 officers and men and one battery) to Culpeper Ford; crossed at 11 a. m. without opposition. A portion of my people crossed at the same hour at Germanna, above, and Ely's Ford, below. Reconnoitering parties were at once sent out toward Chancellorsville and on the different

roads from the Germanna pike, across the stone pike, over to the plank road from Orange Court-House to Fredericksburg. A considerable force under Colonel Alger drove a small body of rebel cavalry on the ridge road to Robertson's Tavern, and thence across to the plank road. Major Cooke, with his regiment, also made a successful reconnaissance up the river above Germanna as far as Jacobs' Ford, capturing the picket at that point. This ended operations for the day, and I went into camp near ———, on the Germanna plank road.

From all that I could learn, the enemy occupy the same position as when our army crossed in November last. He has no considerable force this side of Mine Run. Hampton's cavalry is at Hamilton's Crossing. A large number of his men are without horses or arms; 240 of his men picket the river from Germanna to the United States Ford; only a few of the last detail sent had horses. At 6 a. m. on the 7th I received orders to recross the river and return to camp. At 9 a. m. my entire command had recrossed without molestation, and reached camp at 4 p. m. without loss of a man. A few prisoners were taken and forwarded to the provost-marshal of the corps.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 24.

*Report of General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding Army of Northern Virginia.*

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 8, 1864.

The forces of the enemy which crossed at Morton's Ford on Saturday were driven to the river under cover of their guns that evening. During the night they recrossed to the north bank, but remained in position yesterday. This morning they have disappeared. They left 17 dead and 46 prisoners in our hands. Our loss, 4 killed and 20 wounded.* The guard at the ford (a lieutenant and 25 men), while bravely resisting the passage of the enemy, were captured. The enemy's cavalry which appeared at Barnett's Saturday retired across Robertson River Sunday evening.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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No. 25.

*Report of Col. Henry C. Cabell, C. S. Artillery, commanding Artillery Battalion.*

FEBRUARY 8, 1864.

GENERAL: Saturday morning between 10 and 11 o'clock a large force of the enemy drove in our pickets at Morton's Ford. The First

* Nominal list shows casualties in Lomax's brigade to have been 1 killed, 2 wounded, and 5 missing.

Company of Richmond Howitzers, in charge of First Lieut. R. M. Anderson, was in position at the breast-works on the right of the main road leading to the ford. These works are a mile or more from the ford and afford no command of it, the view being cut off by the irregularities of the ground and by the cluster of houses at Dr. Morton's residence, which entirely conceal the road from that point to the ford. The morning was foggy and cloudy. The first intimation Lieutenant Anderson had of the crossing of the enemy was from an officer who requested him to fire the signal gun.

At that time the Yankee skirmishers had advanced as far as Dr. Morton's residence, about 800 yards distant. They were at first thought to be our pickets falling back. About the same time several Yankee batteries advanced in the plain on the opposite side of the river and took position so as to cover our front and the advance of their infantry. After firing the signal gun Lieutenant Anderson opened upon these batteries. Ascertaining that the skirmishers in front were our enemies, he opened fire with great spirit upon them. This served to halt their advance and was the means of securing the position. Fortunately that morning Steuart's brigade was relieving two regiments of Ramseur's and two regiments of Doles' brigade. This gave double the usual force. These troops hurried forward to the works and arrived very promptly, considering the distance from their camps. There was, however, a considerable time that the battery was without support. I ordered up Captain Carlton's battery. It came up almost simultaneously with the infantry and was put in position on the right of the howitzers. The firing of these two batteries served to prevent any farther advance of the enemy at that time. I had sent Lieutenant Powell to give information to Lieutenant-General Ewell, and he arrived very promptly. The further dispositions of the artillery were made after his arrival. One of the guns of the howitzer battery was shifted to a position on the left of the road. This gun (a Napoleon) was in charge of Lieut. John Nimmo. This was being done when Lieutenant-General Ewell arrived. I afterward ordered up from Raccoon Ford a rifled gun from Captain Manly's battery. Lieutenant Payne brought the gun promptly forward. It was put in position on the left immediately over the river, so as to command the enemy's batteries expected to advance on the opposite side of the river. Its position also commanded in part the approach from Morton's Ford.

Later in the day I ordered up from Somerville Ford a Parrott gun of Fraser's battery. These two last guns were designed to bear upon the enemy's guns, which it was thought would be advanced in case a determined occupation was intended by the enemy. This gun was promptly brought forward by Lieutenant Falligant and placed in position in the works immediately below Raccoon Ford.

I cannot speak in terms too high of the gallantry, promptness, and constancy displayed by the First Company of Richmond Howitzers. Without support, they drove back the enemy and held them in check until the arrival of infantry support. The prompt arrival of Captain Carlton's battery enabled that battery also to participate in part in the credit due to checking the advance of the enemy, and thus securing our possession of this line. During the various advances of the enemy and the subsequent successful advance of our skirmishers, these guns at Morton's Ford were served with great success and efficiency, contributing in no inconsiderable degree to secure the final repulse of the Yankee force and their withdrawal that night.

I have no doubt that a serious attack was designed by our enemy. It is generally thought that over 4,000 troops came across the river. Their reliance seemed to have been in finding us unprepared. Lieutenant-General Ewell brought up his whole corps to resist it.

The howitzer battery fired 104 rounds; Captain Carlton's battery fired 58 rounds; Captain Manly's battery fired 1 round; total fired at Morton's Ford, 163 rounds.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. CABELL,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. W. N. PENDLETON,
*Chief of Artillery, &c.*

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**FEBRUARY 6-8, 1864.—Expedition from Yorktown against Richmond, Va., including skirmishes at Bottom's Bridge and near Baltimore Store.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Isaac J. Wistar, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.

No. 3.—Brig. Gen. Eppa Hunton, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 8, 1864.
(Received 8 p. m.)

Our expedition, organized as stated in my dispatch,* left Williamsburg at 10 a. m. on Saturday. Arrived at Bottom's Bridge, within 12 miles of Richmond, at the time indicated, 2.30 a. m. Sunday, but found the enemy there posted in strong force, and continually receiving accessions from Richmond by railroad. Waited till daylight, then found they had three regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and four batteries of artillery; the bridge taken up, and the fords effectually obstructed. An attempt was made gallantly to charge over one of them by a detachment of First New York Mounted Rifles, under Major Wheelan, with a loss of 9 killed and wounded. At 12 noon the infantry supports arrived within 7 miles, having made a march of 40 miles in twenty-seven hours. General Wistar says that with the infantry he could have forced the position; but as the enemy had received some intimation of the approach of the expedition the delay had defeated the main object, which was a dash at Richmond. Our forces then returned to New Kent Court-House; were followed by the enemy, who made an attack, but were handsomely repulsed, with loss on their side, by the Third New York Cavalry, under Colonel Lewis, assisted by one piece of Belger's battery. Our forces are returning at their leisure, unmolested. The cavalry have arrived at Williamsburg to-day about 3 p. m. Thus it will be seen that the cavalry in less than fifty hours have marched more than 100 miles.

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*For organization see Wistar's report, p. 146.

Flag-of-truce boat is just in from Richmond, bringing the Examiner of Monday morning, which contains this sentence:

Some days since a report was obtained by the authorities here from a Yankee deserter that the enemy was contemplating a raid in considerable force on Richmond. The report obtained consistency from a number of circumstances, and impressed the authorities to such a degree that a disposition of forces was made to anticipate the supposed designs of the enemy.

I will telegraph further after examination of the papers. It will be seen that conveyance of intelligence has been the cause of want of success. Everything else succeeded as well as desired.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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FORT MONROE, *February* 8, 1864—10.55 p. m.
(Received 11 p. m.)

I have sent the following telegram to the President, and I duplicate to you in order that you may urge my request upon him:

Hon. ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
*President of the United States:*

After much preparation I made a raid on Richmond to release our prisoners there. Everything worked precisely as I expected. The troops reached Bottom's Bridge, 10 miles from Richmond, at 2.30 o'clock on Sunday morning, but we found a force of the enemy posted there to meet us, evidently informed of our intention, none having been there before for two months. They had destroyed the bridge and fallen trees across the road to prevent the passing of the cavalry. Finding the enemy were informed and prepared, we were obliged to retire. The flag-of-truce boat came down from Richmond to-day, bringing a copy of the Examiner, in which it is said that they were prepared for us from information received from a Yankee deserter. Who that deserter was that gave the information you will see by a dispatch just received by me from General Wistar. I send it to you that you may see how your clemency has been misplaced. I desire that you will revoke your order suspending executions in this department. Please answer by telegraph.

Dispatch received from General Wistar:

FORT MAGRUDER, *February* 8, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Private William Boyle, New York Mounted Rifles, under sentence of death for murder of Lieutenant Disosway, was allowed to escape by Private Abraham, of One hundred and thirty-ninth New York, the sentinel over him, four days previous to my movement. It is said he also told him that large numbers of cavalry and infantry were concentrated here to take Richmond. During my absence the commander here has learned that Boyle reached Richmond, and was arrested and placed in Castle Thunder. Boyle would have been hung long ago but for the President's order suspending till further orders the execution of capital sentences. Abrams is in close custody. Charges against him went forward a week ago.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

SECRETARY OF WAR.

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
*Fort Monroe, February* 12, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward to you with commendation the report* of Brigadier-General Wistar of his brilliantly and

*That dated February 9, p. 146.

ably executed movement upon Richmond, which failed only from one of those fortuitous circumstances against which no foresight can provide and no execution can overcome.

By the corruption and faithlessness of a sentinel, who is now being tried for the offense, a man condemned to death, but reprieved by the President, was allowed to escape within the enemy's lines, and there gave them such information as enabled them to meet our advance. This fact is acknowledged in two of the Richmond papers, the Examiner and the Sentinel, published the day after the attack, and is fully confirmed by the testimony before the court-martial, before which is being tried the man who permitted the escape. I beg leave to call your attention to the suggestion of General Wistar in his report, that the effect of the raid will be to hereafter keep as many troops around Richmond for its defense from any future movement of the Army of the Potomac as we have in this neighborhood.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Major-General HALLECK,
*Commanding the Army.*

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No. 2.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Isaac J. Wistar, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.*

FORT MAGRUDER, *February* 6, 1864—10 a. m.

My infantry and artillery are now passing through Williamsburg, 2 miles from here, with small detachment some distance ahead to scatter enemy's infantry pickets, with the impression that they constitute the incursive force as usual. Cavalry and myself will start in one hour, passing infantry near Burnt Ordinary. Saw every detachment commander personally, and explained fully and distributed maps, spikes, matches, and files. All is well. General Graham here in command. If possible, will get news through to you by Monday night.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General BUTLER.

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CAMP AT NEW KENT, *February* 7, 1864—10 p. m.

My cavalry reached Bottom's Bridge at 2.50 a. m. to-day and found the enemy in strong force. Owing to the peculiar darkness of the night it was impossible to attack till daylight. Enemy had four batteries artillery and certainly three regiments infantry, besides cavalry, and were all night and this morning receiving accessions by railroad. Bridge taken up, and all the fords effectually obstructed. A charge on the best-looking ford was gallantly but unsuccessfully executed by Major Wheelan with detachment of Onderdonk's mounted rifles. Loss, 9 killed and wounded; 10 horses killed. At 12 m. to-day, my infantry having arrived by forced marches within

7 miles, I withdrew; could have carried the position with infantry, but not worth while, the main object being defeated. Enemy pursued us to near this place; attacked us at Baltimore Store. Were handsomely repulsed with loss by Third New York Cavalry, Colonel Lewis, and one piece of Belger's battery. Expect an attack to-morrow.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Major-General BUTLER.

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FORT MAGRUDER, *February* 8, 1864.

Have just arrived after a 15-mile gallop with staff only from Burnt Ordinary, where I left the infantry and artillery strongly posted, with orders to march here at 6 a. m. The cavalry arrived here some time before me, having been sent forward for the want of forage. I regret your disappointment. It is no greater, I assure you, than mine. More might have been done for éclat by attacking the bridge; but under the circumstances, distance from base, no available troops in department to re-enforce me, evident preparation by enemy, and, above all, the entire defeat of the real object—in any event it would not have been wise in my judgment Was I right? Have you any orders for the cavalry before it all leaves? I would like to use a little of it in Gloucester.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General BUTLER.

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HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Yorktown, February* 9, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following operations of the forces under my command, undertaken with a view to the surprise and capture of Richmond, and incidental results:

All the infantry and cavalry placed at my disposal by the general commanding, being about 4,000 of the former and 2,200 of the latter, was suddenly concentrated behind my lines at Williamsburg after dark on the evening of the 5th instant, together with Hunt's and Belger's light batteries.

The infantry, consisting of three white regiments, brigaded under Col. R. M. West, First Pennsylvania Light Artillery, and three colored regiments under Colonel Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, moved thence at 9 a. m. on the 6th, carrying on the person six days' rations in the knapsack and 70 rounds of cartridges—40 in the boxes and 30 in the knapsack.

The cavalry, being detachments of five regiments under Col. S. P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, moved two hours later. Colonel Spear was directed to arrive at Bottom's Bridge, 12 miles this side of Richmond, by 3 a. m. of the 7th, surprise it, and move on rapidly to Richmond. A picked company under Captain Hill, First New York Mounted Rifles, with selected horses, was placed in advance to ride down the three pickets—at New Kent, Baltimore Cross-Roads, and at the bridge. Arrangements had been previously

made to have the telegraph wire between Meadow Station and Richmond cut between dark and midnight of the 6th. By these means it was hoped to surprise the enemy's Battery No. 2, on the Bottom's Bridge road near Richmond, and occupy Capitol Square in that city for at least two or three hours; detachments previously detailed and carefully instructed breaking successively from the main column, on entering, for various specific purposes. Of course the success of the enterprise was based upon the sudden and noiseless surprise of the strong picket at Bottom's Bridge, without which it would be impossible for cavalry alone to pass Battery No. 2. Colonel Spear failed to capture the pickets at Baltimore Cross-Roads, owing to the excessive darkness of the night, which unfortunately proved to be cloudy and rainy. He reached Bottom's Bridge, a distance of 51 miles, ten minutes before the time designated, but found the enemy there in strong force, with infantry, cavalry, and artillery. They had received notice some sixteen hours previously, as appeared from the testimony of various persons in the vicinity, including women, children, and negroes, separately examined, of the arrival near Williamsburg of accessions to our usual force, and had during that time been vigorously making preparations. The bridge planks had been taken up, the fords both above and below effectually obstructed, extensive earth-works and rifle-pits constructed, and a strong force of troops brought down by the York River Railroad, by which large accessions were still arriving.

The darkness prevented an attack till morning, when a detachment of the New York Mounted Rifles, under Major Wheelan, made a gallant but unsuccessful charge on the bridge by the only approach—a long causeway flanked on either hand by an impassable marsh. The enemy opened with canister, first checking and then repulsing the charge, with a loss to us of 9 killed and wounded and 10 horses killed. All our men were subsequently brought off, as well as the saddles and equipments. The river was reconnoitered both above and below for some miles, but at every possible crossing the enemy was found in force with newly placed obstructions. Three regiments of infantry were plainly seen, besides other infantry, which fired from the woods, where their numbers could not be ascertained. Four batteries of field artillery were counted, and at least one heavy gun was in position, its shot reaching the bluff on this side and falling far in our rear.

Our infantry had marched on the 6th 33 miles, arriving at New Kent Court-House at 2 a. m. on the 7th. After a halt of three hours I moved on with them rapidly as possible toward the firing at the bridge, which was plainly audible. At 11 a. m., knowing from the continued firing ahead that Colonel Spear had not succeeded in effecting a passage, and that even if now effected our object of surprising the city must necessarily be defeated, I sent him orders to retire, but kept pushing on to his support lest his condition might be worse than I supposed. The infantry had arrived within 7 miles of the bridge when it met the head of his returning column, and after hearing from him the full state of the case, I reluctantly felt obliged to retire my whole force, not feeling authorized to incur the loss necessary to force the position without any longer an ulterior object to justify it. The cavalry was suffered to pass ahead, except about 300 men of the Third New York Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, retained for rear guard.

At Baltimore Store the enemy overtook and attacked my rear

guard with vigor, but were quickly and handsomely repulsed by it, with the aid of a section of Belger's battery, the two pieces being alternately fired and retired to new positions. The enemy in this affair lost at least one officer and some few men, whom they abandoned till we had passed on.

The command bivouacked at New Kent unmolested, and on the 8th, the cavalry being out of forage, which the country did not afford, were sent ahead, arriving at Williamsburg the same evening. The infantry bivouacked in order of battle at Burnt Ordinary, and to-day returned to their former camp, having marched during the four days of their absence 33, 28, 18, and 25 miles, respectively, with alacrity and cheerfulness, and almost without straggling, the colored troops being in this respect, as usual, remarkable. With the exception of a little looseness of discipline in one or two of the cavalry regiments in returning, the conduct of officers and men, both in action and on the march, was everything that could be desired.

The whole result of the expedition, in addition to one or two prisoners captured and a few refugees, escaped Union prisoners, and negroes picked up and brought in, is the obvious fact that a small force in this vicinity, actively handled, can and should hold a much superior force of the enemy in the immediate vicinity of Richmond inactive except for its defense.

I have the honor to be, major, with great respect, your obedient servant,

ISAAC J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February* 12, 1864.

Report approved.

The operation was skillfully and brilliantly done. It gives the commanding general renewed confidence in General Wistar as a commander of a division.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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No. 3.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Eppa Hunton, C. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS,
*Chaffin's Farm, February* 7, 1864.

MAJOR: The enemy reached Bottom's Bridge at 4.15 o'clock last night, of which I presume you have been informed by Colonel Shingler, who was directed to report all the enemy's movements to you by telegraph. I am anxious about the positions above Bottom's Bridge, lest Colonel Shingler's position should be turned and his command endangered. If the enemy succeed in crossing the Chickahominy, I shall move out the rest of my command on the Varina and New Market roads. The artillery from the other side of the

James River has not reported. Some firing has been heard this morning in the direction of Bottom's Bridge. I have not heard a word from Major Robertson. Sent him a dispatch a little after light this morning, to know if any enemy menaced his front.

Respectfully, &c.,

EPPA HUNTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Chaffin's Farm, February 7*, 1864—12.10.

I have just received a dispatch from Major Robertson, who learned from a Mr. Christian that the enemy at Bottom's Bridge are 10,000 strong, and others advancing on another road (the numbers and road not stated). He also incloses a dispatch from Lieutenant Havenner that the enemy is advancing on the Telegraph and Diascond roads (numbers not stated). The Southside Artillery has arrived, and is in position on the Varina road at fortifications, for the present; six splendid Napoleons. I have directed Major Robertson, in case a retirement before the enemy should be unavoidable, to retire on my infantry pickets at New Market. Colonel Shingler will retire toward Richmond. I hope a back step will not be necessary.

Respectfully, &c.,

EPPA HUNTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Chaffin's Farm, February 7*, 1864.

MAJOR: One of my men (of the Thirty-second Regiment), serving under Lieutenant Hume, has just arrived to give the particulars of the late advance of the enemy. He says he was in 15 yards of the column when it passed. It consisted of one brigade of cavalry, three brigades of infantry, and twelve pieces of artillery. He says that independent of this force there was a large force below, 3 miles below the Burnt Ordinary. He could form no accurate idea of this force, as they were below the scouts; judged it was large from the incessant beating of drums. The cavalry was some distance ahead of the infantry and artillery. He thinks the infantry did not come farther than Barhamsville last night; this is 27 miles from Bottom's Bridge. If he is right in this, the infantry and cavalry had not gotten to Bottom's Bridge before the cavalry fell back. He does not know who commanded the expedition. This scout reports that they killed 3 Yankee sergeants on the upward march. A dispatch just received from Colonel Shingler says his cavalry pursued the enemy to Crump's Cross-Roads, which is about 5 miles.

Now, if this report of the forces of the enemy is correct (and I have no doubt of it), I am at a loss to understand why the enemy has retired for the small repulse received. Query: Have they abandoned the object of the expedition? I do not yet feel sure of it.

They brought very few wagons (not over fifteen or twenty in all), and a rapid raid only seems to have been contemplated. It would not surprise me if they had fallen back to make a better start, probably on some other road. I shall keep up the utmost diligence until I am satisfied. Please inform me if I shall recall the infantry and Major Stark's artillery, as soon as Colonel Shingler is satisfied the expedition is abandoned. Please answer this last inquiry to-night.

Respectfully, &c.,

EPPA HUNTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*]

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Chaffin's Farm, February 9*, 1864.

MAJOR: From information deemed reliable and received last night, the enemy's force recently threatening my front consisted of the following commands: Cavalry, First District of Columbia, Eleventh Regiment Pennsylvania, First New York Mounted Rifles, Fifth Pennsylvania, Third New York, and Fifth U. S. Colored Troops; infantry, three regiments negroes, One hundred and thirty-ninth New York, one Delaware regiment, and fifteen pieces of artillery. The enemy, as reported by Colonel Shingler's scouts, passed Slatersville yesterday morning, and he (Colonel Shingler) thinks they are now in Williamsburg. His estimate of their force is 5,000, and Major Robertson's 8,000.

I have heard nothing definite of any movement on the other side of the York River, and I presume there is no danger to the wagon train under Captain Smith, sent for pork to King and Queen. This train consists of thirteen of my best teams, and the loss of it would break me.

Respectfully, &c.,

EPPA HUNTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**FEBRUARY 9, 1864.—Reconnaissance toward Swansborough, N. C.**

*Report of Col. James Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding Sub-district of Beaufort.*

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, N. C.,
*Morehead City, February 10*, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform you that I made a reconnaissance yesterday to within a few miles of Swansborough and in the direction of Young's Cross-Roads, and to report no enemy between Young's Cross-Roads, White Oak River, and my lines. I marched from Newport at 2 p. m. on the 9th instant with about 800 infantry, 33 cavalry, and two pieces of artillery; returned to Newport, arriving at 2 p. m., after marching about 36 miles; recaptured 1 of our

horses, and found 2 of the enemy's wounded at a house, who will be sent to a hospital at once. The enemy is reported to have retired to Jacksonville and Trenton.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. B. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, New Berne.*

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**FEBRUARY 11, 1864.—Gilmor's Raid on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Maj. Gen. James E. B. Stuart, C. S. Army.
No. 3.—Synopsis of testimony as to robbery of the passengers.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 12, 1864.
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

The express train west last night was thrown off the track near Kearneysville by a band of Gilmor's guerrillas, numbering about 25. They did not burn the train or take away any prisoners, but robbed the conductor and passengers of quite a sum of money. Brigadier-General Sullivan reports his cavalry in pursuit. General Duffié reports his cavalry had captured a portion of the guerrilla force that took General Scammon, but does not say that the general is recaptured.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Gen. James E. B. Stuart, C. S. Army.*

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 24, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that Maj. H. W. Gilmor, commanding cavalry battalion, has made a successful attack upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

On the night of the 11th instant he, with 20 men, penetrated to the railroad at Brown's Shop, between Kearneysville and Duffield's Depot, attacked the express train from Baltimore, threw it from the track, disabling the engine and damaging the track. He captured nearly 90 prisoners, but owing to the proximity of the enemy was compelled to abandon them, having taken away their arms. He returned to Mount Jackson without loss, although pursued, as he states, as far as Strasburg by four or five regiments.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
*Chief of Staff.*

No. 3.

*Synopsis of testimony as to robbery of the passengers.**

HYMAN ROBBERY.

The first proof is a letter from Mr. Phil. Williams, of Winchester, a very prominent citizen, whom Hyman consulted on his arrival at that place. The letter is to General Early, and is dated February 15, 1864. It contains Hyman's version of the robbery. Hyman says that as he passed a brick house on the west side of the road near Woodstock (north of it), he saw 7 Confederate cavalry; that the same 7 men passed him as he was approaching Strasburg, at Fisher's Hill. Hyman had two wagons, driven by two sons of Mr. Cross, of Newtown, and there was a young man in one of them named Grove, also of Newtown, who remarked as the men passed, "There goes Cherry." (Grove subsequently denied having made the remark.) There was also with Hyman a boy of about seventeen years of age named Ezekiel, from Richmond. The men halted at the foot of the hill near the river, and one of them rode back to the wagons and asked Hyman if he had any papers. He showed his passports, when the man said he wanted his purse. Hyman gave him a small purse with ten gold dollars and some paper money, when the man said to him that he had a belt on with money in it, which he wanted. Hyman had on two belts, and while he was trying to get off one without showing the other was knocked down and robbed of about $6,000 in gold (chiefly twenty-dollar pieces), a silver watch, a great coat (invisible green with yellow silk sleeve linings), in the pocket of which was a fur collar and a small Hebrew prayer-book. There was taken from young Ezekiel a lady's gold watch and a belt containing a number of silver coins and medals.

It appears from the letter of Colonel Carrington, provost-marshal at Richmond, that soon after the robbery General Winder sent two detectives to the valley to investigate the matter, at the request of the father of Ezekiel. These detectives reported that they were convinced that Cherry and some other men committed the robbery; that they determined to arrest Cherry, and were piloted by a negro 6 miles beyond Strasburg in search of him. Fearing foul play they turned back, but on searching the negro found on him the watch stolen from young Ezekiel, which was subsequently identified by his father. They did not bring off the negro because they said they were afraid to encumber themselves with him. It should be mentioned that the detectives got Mr. Williams' letter from General Early before they went down the valley.

On March 9, 1864, a letter was written by a Maj. E. W. Cross from Harrisonburg to Colonel Carrington, in which he charges that the detectives did find out the guilty parties but were bribed to say nothing. Cross says that he had examined some of the money said to have been taken at the railroad robbery, but that all was marked in a peculiar manner. (In Mr. Williams' letter it was stated that the stolen money was marked.) Cross further says that the perpetrators were generally known in the vicinity of Harrisonburg. He gives the names of a number of persons who can show some of the money. He also states that Major Gilmor, while under the influence of liquor,

* Found in the files of the Army of Northern Virginia. See also Lee to Seddon, March 6, 1864, p. 223.

had boasted that he had arranged the whole affair. He says he can name every man concerned but could not prove the fact, but gives the names of others who can; also states that Gilmor had boasted that he had arranged the matter with the detectives, and could manage the whole detective force of the Government.

The papers above referred to were sent by the department to General Imboden, with orders to investigate the whole matter. The proof obtained by General Imboden was as follows:

Captain Owings, quartermaster of Gilmor's battalion, states that Gilmor gave him $160 in gold to buy a horse with, and told him that most of it was taken from a Jew, and that he had arranged the affair, though he did not take the money personally. Gilmor stated that Cherry, Martin, and others were engaged; other names not remembered. The robbery took place below Harrisonburg. The conversation took place soon after Gilmor's return from the railroad expedition. Gilmor was in liquor when the conversation occurred.

Captain Ross, of Gilmor's battalion, testifies that he conversed with several of the men engaged in the railroad robbery, who told him they got no gold. He talked with Martin, and told him that if he had had anything to do with robbing the Jew named Hyman he had better make a clean breast of it. Martin said that he met Major Gilmor near Fisher's Hill with other men not recognized. He did not know Gilmor until the latter hailed him, nor was Gilmor riding his own horse. Gilmor ordered Martin with some others to follow a wagon then near to a certain place, and take out two boys named Cross and remove them out of sight of the wagon. The wagon contained Jews. Martin's share of the gold was about $800. Gilmor acknowledged to Captain Ross that he had arranged the affair of robbing the Jew; had put the men concerned all right, and had stood off and seen the thing well done.

Quartermaster-Sergeant Gorsuch, of Gilmor's battalion, testifies that the men got but little gold, if any, from the railroad.

Private John Bosley, Company C, Gilmor's battalion, told Gorsuch that he had seen a pile of gold in the possession of Major Gilmor.

Private Todd, of Company C, told Bosley that he (Todd) had received about $800, and also that Major Gilmor, Cherry, Mel. Todd, Martin, and one man in McNeill's company were engaged in robbing the Jew. Bosley also stated that Martin had given more than $500 to Cherry's mother, in Staunton.

Private Bosley testified substantially as above. Says that M. Todd admitted that he was engaged in the robbery, and gave the names of the others above mentioned. Todd says his share was about $860, and that there were eight persons concerned.

Private Harding, Company C, testifies that he stopped all night below Woodstock the day after the railroad affair, and that the next morning he met Gilmor, ex-Lieutenant Billings, and Snodgrass, with two or three others, going down the valley, and a man remarked that he would "bet the major was on the make now."

Lieutenant Kemp testifies that he heard Cherry say that he had placed some money in the hands of Todd; do not know how much. Heard that all the money stolen was gold. Heard Major Gilmor say that he was not there, or that they would not catch him in the affair; does not remember the words.

In Major Gilmor's report of the attack on the railroad he says Cherry was present, but he was not aware of it until after the affair was over.

RAILROAD ROBBERY.

Gilmor's report states the reasons why he did not bring off the prisoners taken in the cars. Alleges that the robbery of the passengers was without his knowledge and against his orders. States that he took about $900 in greenbacks from the mail-bags. Most of the men got money, but would not admit how much. That when the train was first attacked he went to get in the express car to break open the safe, but went into the smoking-car by mistake. The robbery took place while he was engaged in the express and smoking car, where one of the passengers attacked him. The report shows that the principal attention was given to plunder.

Sergeant Levy, Company B, testifies that Gilmor gave orders the evening before not to molest citizens or ladies.

William Gilmor, Company C, testifies to the robbery at the cars, and that he heard Major Gilmor say that if any more citizens were robbed the robber should be shot. More robberies were committed.

Quartermaster Sergeant Gorsuch proves that men who were on the expedition admitted that they robbed citizens, except those in the ladies' car. Pistols, money, and clothing were taken.

Private Bosley testifies to the admissions of men engaged on the railroad that they had robbed passengers. One man took a watch from a lady.

Private Harding testifies that they were ordered not to take anything from the employés of the railroad, but understood they might take from citizens. He remonstrated against the proceeding, and told Gilmor there were as good Southern men as himself in the train. One man got $13 in gold and silver. Gilmor told them they might take anything from the conductor or from the express agent.

## FEBRUARY 14, 1864.—Affair near Brentsville, Va.

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac, for February*, 1864.

*February* 14.—An escort from [Thirteenth Pennsylvania] regiment, under Lieut. Patrick S. Early, was attacked by guerrillas concealed in woods near Brentsville, Va. We had 2 men killed and 4 wounded.

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## FEBRUARY 16, 1864.—Affair at Fairfield, N. C.

*Report of Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 23, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that General Wessells, commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle, dispatched the army gunboat Foster on the 16th to the Alligator River upon a reconnaissance. Her crew was re-enforced by Lieutenant Helm and 30 men of the One hundred and first Pennsylvania Volunteers. Hearing that the

Spencer Rangers were quartered at Fairfield, Captain McLaughlin proceeded in two launches, surprised the outpost, and captured the whole company, consisting of Captain Spencer, 1 lieutenant, and 26 privates. Much property was taken. This enterprise was conducted in a heavy snow-storm, and entitles all concerned to the highest praise. Another proof is added of the value of our army gun-boats.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ADDENDA.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. CAROLINA,
No. 24. } *New Berne, N. C., March* 2, 1864.

The commanding general is gratified at being enabled to announce another in the series of successful enterprises against the enemy projected by Brigadier-General Wessells, commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle.

The army gun-boat Foster, Captain McLaughlin commanding, with a detachment of infantry under Lieutenant Helm, One hundred and first Pennsylvania Volunteers, was sent on the 16th of February on an expedition to Fairfield, N. C., where a band of guerrillas under command of Captain Spencer was quartered. The camp was surprised, the arms and stores secured, and the whole company taken prisoners without loss on our side. The affair was conducted in a severe snow-storm, and reflects much credit upon the officers and men concerned.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**FEBRUARY 17–18, 1864.—Scout from Warrenton, and skirmish near Piedmont, Va.**

*Report of Lieut. Col. John W. Kester, First New Jersey Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NEW JERSEY CAVALRY,
*February* 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to instructions, I started from Warrenton with 350 men, comprising the following commands: One hundred and fifty, First New Jersey; 100, First Pennsylvania; 50, Third Pennsylvania, and 50, First Massachusetts. It being very cold I marched rapidly, and at Salem I sent Lieutenant Bradbury, Third Pennsylvania, with 50 men of the First Massachusetts, to pass through Upperville and meet the rest of the command at Paris, in Ashby's Gap. I took the main column on to Piedmont. At that point I sent Captain Hart with 150 men of the First New Jersey Cavalry to pass through Piedmont Valley and stop at Paris until I arrived. With 100 men of the First Pennsylvania, under Captain McGregor, and 50 men of the Third Pennsylvania, under Captain Wetherill, I marched to Markham Station in Man-

assas Gap. From that point I crossed the mountains by a by-path, and joined the other parties at Paris at 12 o'clock on the day of the 18th. The column under Lieutenant Bradbury lost their way and came into Paris without passing through Upperville, and captured some horses and arms without seeing any of the enemy. The column under Captain Hart passed through Piedmont Valley, and surprised and captured 15 of Mosby's guerrillas and furloughed soldiers, and a quantity of arms, equipments, and horses. The other column with myself passed into Manassas Gap to Markham, and from there to Paris, capturing 13 of Mosby's guerrillas and furloughed soldiers, and a quantity of arms, equipments, horses, and some medical stores. The latter we destroyed. As we came near Paris about 40 guerrillas charged on my rear guard. I sent a squadron and charged, scattering them. No casualties on our side. I stopped one hour at Paris, and started to return at 1 o'clock. By this time the guerrillas had collected together in a body, numbering nearly 100 men, who made repeated attempts to capture my rear guard, which they paid dearly for. At one time 1 man was shot from his horse; at another, 2 were knocked over, and another, an officer, was dismounted and wounded, and was rescued by his comrades, but his horse and trappings fell into our hands.

The casualties on our side were: Captain Hart, First New Jersey, slightly wounded, and 2 horses killed. The guide you furnished me was of great assistance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. KESTER,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. HENRY C. WEIR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division.*

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**FEBRUARY 20, 1864.—Skirmishes at Upperville and Front Royal, Va.**

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Abstract from Record of Events on return of Cavalry Brigade, Department of West Virginia, for February, 1864.

No. 3.—Lieut. Col. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, U. S. Army.*

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*February* 20, 1864.

The prisoners captured by Major Cole are part of Mosby's men. Mosby to-day received his commission of lieutenant-colonel. His officers were dressed up, celebrating it. Cole caught them with their good clothes on. Our loss 2 killed, 3 wounded, 1 missing. Rebels', 5 killed; wounded unknown.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

General KELLEY.

No. 2.

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of Cavalry Brigade, Department of West Virginia, for February,* 1864.

*February* 20.—Three parties were sent out of 200 men by way of Loudoun, under command of Major Cole, who met Mosby's troops at or near Upperville, and after a severe skirmish lost 1 captain and 1 private killed and several missing; captured 18 rebels. Another party under command of Colonel Taylor went to Front Royal; drove the rebels from there, who took to the mountains. We captured 8 prisoners. The third party went to Strasburg without meeting the enemy. Capt. W. L. Morgan, Company A, First New York Veteran Cavalry, was killed in action near Upperville.

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No. 3.

*Report of Lieut. Col. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion.*

FEBRUARY 21, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that about 8 o'clock yesterday morning, on being informed that a large body of the enemy's cavalry were in Upperville, I took immediate steps to be prepared to meet them. The enemy proceeded some distance along the pike toward Piedmont, when they started back. I did all in my power to retard them by annoying them with a few sharpshooters in order to give my men time to collect. After getting between 50 and 60 together I attacked them about 2 miles beyond Upperville. A sharp skirmish ensued, in which we repulsed them in three distinct charges and drove their sharpshooters from a very strong position behind a stone wall. They fled in the direction of Harper's Ferry. We pursued them about 2 miles. They were enabled to cover their retreat by means of their numerous carbineers posted behind stone fences. As my men had nothing but pistols, with only a few exceptions, I was compelled to make flank movements in order to dislodge them, which, of course, checked a vigorous pursuit. Citizens who counted the enemy inform me that they numbered 250 men, under command of Major Cole. They left 6 of their dead on the field, among them 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 7 men prisoners; also, horses, army equipments, &c. The road over which they retreated was strewn with abandoned hats, haversacks, &c. They impressed wagons to carry off their wounded.

While all acted well, with but few exceptions, it is a source of great pride to bring to your notice the names of some whose conspicuous gallantry renders their mention both a duty and a pleasure. They are Captain and Lieutenant Chapman, Lieutenants Fox, Richards, Sergeants Palmer, Lavender, and Privates Munson, Edmons, Montjoy, Starke, and Cunningham. My loss was 2 wounded.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. MOSBY,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 28, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Colonel Mosby's gallantry and skill highly commended, and attention called to the officers and men specially mentioned.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *March* 8, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, concurring in the commendation of General Stuart bestowed upon Colonel Mosby, the officers and men of his command.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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**FEBRUARY 20, 1864.—Affair near Hurricane Bridge, W. Va.**

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of Third Brigade, Third Cavalry Division, Department of West Virginia, for February,* 1864.

A scouting party of 20 men of the Third West Virginia Cavalry, under Lieut. Henry A. Wolf, Company K, sent out from Hurricane Bridge, W. Va., had a skirmish with the enemy [February 20], in which Lieutenant Wolf was killed.

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**FEBRUARY 21–22, 1864.—Scout from New Creek to Moorefield, W. Va.**

*Report of Col. James A. Mulligan, Twenty-third Illinois Infantry.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 22, 1864.
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

The following telegram from Colonel Mulligan just received. Captain Wallace is the hero of Greenland Gap, where he was captured with his company last May by General Jones, and taken to Richmond by his prisoner, Parker. Captain Kuykendall was captured a few days since in Hampshire County.

NEW CREEK, W. VA., *February* 22, 1864.

Captain MATHEWS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Captain Wallace just in from a scout to Moorefield. He captured Lieutenant Parker, 2 privates, and 3 horses. Parker is first lieutenant of Kuykendall's company, and the same officer who guarded Wallace to Richmond.

JAS. A. MULLIGAN.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff.*

**FEBRUARY 21-22, 1864.—Skirmishes near Circleville and Dranesville, Va.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert O. Tyler, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Robert O. Tyler, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS TYLER'S DIVISION,
*Fairfax Court-House, Va., February* 23, 1864—9 p. m.

I have the honor to report that a detachment of 125 men of the Second Massachusetts Cavalry, and 25 men of the Sixteenth New York Cavalry, under command of Capt. J. S. Reed, Second Massachusetts Cavalry, encountered, on the 21st instant, in the vicinity of Circleville Post-Office, 70 of Mosby's men, whom they defeated with severe loss to them. On their return, within 2 miles of Dranesville, on the Leesburg turnpike, they were ambuscaded by a force of between 200 and 300 men, under command of Mosby. Captain Reed's command fought well, but were finally driven toward the Potomac, in the vicinity of Muddy Branch. On receipt of the intelligence, a large force went immediately in pursuit, without, however, overtaking the enemy, who had ten hours the start, and the pursuit beyond Goose Creek was abandoned. Our loss was 10 killed and 7 wounded. Among the former, I regret to say, was Captain Reed, a brave and noble soldier. About 60 of the detachment are yet unaccounted for. A report will be sent by mail to-morrow.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Lieut. Col. JOSEPH H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion.*

FEBRUARY 23, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that about 11 o'clock on the 21st instant, having learned that a body of 180 of the enemy's cavalry were on a raiding expedition in the vicinity of Middleburg, I started in pursuit with about 160 men. On reaching Middleburg I found they had gone toward Leesburg via Mountville, and that they had come from Vienna, in Fairfax. Directing Captain Chapman, whom I left in command, to move down Goose Creek near to Ball's Mill, I went with a small squad to reconnoiter in person. On reaching Leesburg I discovered they had taken the Dranesville pike. After going about 6 miles in this direction they went into camp about 2 o'clock at night.

In the mean time I had ordered my command to Guilford Station, in order to keep pace with their movements and to be in a position to intercept them. After having ascertained where they had encamped I moved my command out to the pike about 2 miles from Dranesville, at a point offering fine natural advantages for surpris-

ing an enemy. Distributing the different companies in positions where I could attack their front, flank, and rear simultaneously, we awaited the approach of the enemy. Soon the concerted signal—a volley from the carbineers under Montjoy—announced the time for attack. With a terrific yell, Chapman, Hunter, and Williams, with their brave commands, dashed on the unsuspecting Yankees. Surprised and confounded, with no time to form, they made but feeble resistance, and were perfectly overwhelmed by the shock of the charge. They fled in every direction in the wildest confusion, leaving on the field at least 15 killed and a considerable number wounded, besides 70 prisoners in our hands, with all their horses, arms, and equipments. Among their killed was the captain commanding. A captain and 2 lieutenants are among the prisoners, who belong to the California Battalion. Many of them were also driven into the Potomac. The gallantry of both my officers and men was unsurpassed.

My loss was 1 man killed and 4 wounded; none dangerously.

My thanks are due Captain Chapman and Lieutenants Williams and Hunter and Adjutant Chapman for their fidelity in executing every order.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. MOSBY,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 28, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

This is another of the many brilliant exploits of this gallant leader. His boldness and skill are highly commended, as evidenced by the complete rout of the enemy with so small loss. Attention is invited to the special mention made of certain officers and men.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
*March* 8, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, uniting in the commendation bestowed by General Stuart.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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**FEBRUARY 28, 1864.—Scout in Gloucester County, Va.**

*Report of Col. Robert M. West, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

FEBRUARY 29, 1864—2.50 p. m.

A party of 300 of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Captain Ackerly, of that regiment, sent out early yesterday morning to scout through Gloucester County, returned this morning, bringing in 5 prisoners and their horses. A detailed report will be

duly forwarded. There does not appear to be more than a very small number of the enemy in Gloucester or adjacent counties. They are scattered and difficult to find.

ROBT. M. WEST,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Fort Monroe.*

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**FEBRUARY 28–MARCH 1, 1864.—Custer's raid into Albemarle County, Va.**

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Feb. 29, 1864.—Skirmish at Stanardsville.
Skirmish near Charlottesville.
Mar. 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Stanardsville.
Skirmish at Burton's Ford.

REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. George A. Custer, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.
No. 2.—Lieut. George W. Yates, aide-de-camp to Major-General Pleasonton, U. S. Army.
No. 3.—Brig. Gen. Francis T. Nicholls, C. S. Army.
No. 4.—Capt. Marcellus N. Moorman, C. S. Artillery, commanding Stuart Horse Artillery.

No. 1.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. George A. Custer, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.*

HEADQUARTERS,
*Near Madison Court-House, March* 1, 1864—6 p. m.

SIR: I have just arrived at this point with my entire command. I will send a full report of my operations. My command is now being fed. I will probably return to Culpeper to-night. My horses are very much worn. I found Charlottesville and the bridge over the Rivanna guarded by four batteries of artillery, two brigades of cavalry, and a very large force of infantry. This will be sufficient reason for my not having destroyed the railroad bridge, but I destroyed the fine frame bridge over that stream, within 2 miles of the railroad; captured and destroyed a large camp of the enemy, after driving them from it; captured 6 caissons loaded with ammunition, 2 forges, and harness for both caissons and forges; burnt 3 large flouring mills filled with grain; captured 1 standard bearing the Virginia State arms; captured about 500 horses, 2 Government wagons, one loaded with bacon, and on my return was cut off by a large force of cavalry and artillery under Generals Stuart and Wickham. My command cut its way through without losing a man, except a few wounded. The enemy had several killed, a large number wounded, and we captured over 50 prisoners. Since yesterday morning I have marched 100 miles.

Very respectfully,

G. A. CUSTER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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*See also Meade's report, p. 170.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*Thursday, March* 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command during the late expedition into Albemarle:

I left Pony Mountain with my command at 2 p. m. Sunday, the 28th ultimo, and marched to the vicinity of Madison Court-House, where I arrived about 6 p. m., and bivouacked until 2 a. m. the following day, at which hour I marched on the road leading to Stanardsville. A small picket of the enemy was driven in a few miles north of Banks' Ford on the Rapidan. Nothing further was seen of the enemy until we arrived at Stanardsville, where a mounted force of about 20 men was encountered. After the exchange of a few shots they fled in the direction of Orange Court-House. From Stanardsville I took the road leading to Charlottesville. From prisoners picked up along the route I learned that Fitzhugh Lee's division of cavalry was encamped in the vicinity of Charlottesville, having been sent there to obtain forage and recruit his command. The pickets of the enemy were met about 6 miles from Charlottesville, and, when forced to retire, fell back in the direction of that place. We succeeded in driving the enemy before us until we reached a point about 2 miles beyond the Rivanna River, and within 3 miles of Charlottesville. Here I discovered a superior force of the enemy's cavalry, supported by four batteries of artillery, in position, and a very heavy force of infantry (which I have since learned was Early's division). To satisfy myself concerning the enemy's strength and position I ordered Captain Ash, of the Fifth U. S. Cavalry, with two squadrons of his regiment, to charge the enemy's right flank. Captain Ash drove the enemy back very gallantly, and succeeded in capturing 6 caissons filled with ammunition, 2 forges and harness complete, besides destroying the camp of the enemy. Learning the vast superiority of the numbers of the enemy, compared with my own, and the strength of his position, I determined to withdraw my command, which I did deliberately and in good order. After recrossing the Rivanna I burned the bridge over that stream; I also burned a large flour mill at that point, as well as two other mills at different points on my route. I retired on the road leading to Stanardsville. When 16 miles from Charlottesville I fed my command and bivouacked until daylight. Through a misunderstanding, 500 men of my command, under Colonel Stedman, Sixth Ohio Cavalry, marched all night and recrossed the Rapidan before daylight, thus reducing my command to 1,000 cavalry and one section of artillery.

At daylight on the morning of the 1st I resumed my march on the road to Stanardsville, at which point a small picket of the enemy was posted. Here I destroyed a quantity of Government stores, consisting of bags, caps, saddles, leather, muskets, flour, and whisky. Taking the road from Stanardsville to Madison, I continued my march without interruption from the enemy until a point was reached at which the road branched in two directions, one branch leading to Burton's Ford on the Rapidan, the other to Banks' Ford. Here a brigade of rebel cavalry was drawn up, under command of Generals Stuart and Wickham. My advance guard, composed of one squadron of the Fifth U. S. Cavalry, under Captain Leib, was charged by the First and Fifth Virginia Cavalry, led by Stuart in person. At first the charge, being unexpected, was partially successful, and

forced the advance guard back upon the main body, but the entire regiment (Fifth U. S. Cavalry), being sent forward under Captain Arnold, gallantly repelled the charge of the enemy and drove them back in great disorder, capturing over 20 prisoners and recapturing those of our own men who had been taken in the first charge by the enemy. Without giving the enemy time to rally his scattered forces, I hurried forward my entire command, halting only long enough to allow Lieutenant Porter to place his guns in position and fire a few rounds after the retreating enemy. A portion of the enemy took the road to Banks' Ford, while the main body took the road leading to Burton's Ford. I pursued this latter force until he was driven across the South River, at a point near to Burton's Ford, on the Rapidan. A portion of my command crossed the South River and drove the enemy to the Rapidan. Here I placed my guns in position, and made other demonstrations as if determined to cross at Burton's Ford. The enemy, mistaking my real intentions, concentrated all his forces at this ford, for this purpose withdrawing them entirely from Banks' and the upper fords. Before he could detect my movement I faced my command about and moved rapidly to the road leading to Banks' Ford, at which point I crossed the river without molestation. The enemy discovered the change in my movements, but too late to profit thereby. A force of 500 cavalry, which had been hurried up from Burton's Ford to intercept us, only arrived in time to see my rear guard safely across the river.

My command returned to its camp without having suffered the loss of a man. While on this expedition it marched upwards of 150 miles, destroyed the bridge over the Rivanna River, burned 3 large flouring mills filled with grain and flour, captured 6 caissons and 2 forges, with harness complete; captured 1 standard bearing the arms of Virginia, over 50 prisoners, and about 500 horses, besides bringing away over 100 contrabands. A large camp of the enemy was also captured and destroyed near Charlottesville.

The conduct of the officers and men of my command was all that I could desire.

Respectfully submitted.

G. A. CUSTER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.*

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.*

*ADDENDA.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March 2, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. G. A. CUSTER,
*Commanding Second Brigade, Third Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to express his entire satisfaction at the result of your expedition, and the gratification he has felt at the prompt manner in which the duties assigned to you have been performed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. George W. Yates, aide-de-camp to Major-General Pleasonton, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March 3,* 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I joined an expedition, composed of 1,500 men and one section of artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Porter, Battery E, First Artillery, the whole commanded by Brig. Gen. George A. Custer, on the night of the 28th of February, 1864, at Madison Court-House, Va.

On the 29th, at 1 a. m., reveille was sounded, and "to horse" at 2 a. m. We immediately thereafter took up our line of march in the direction of the Rapidan River, traveling in a southwesterly direction. Approaching Wolftown we met a small cavalry picket, which fled at our approach. At daylight we struck the Rapidan River at its south fork, crossing at Banks' Mill Ford without opposition, and pushing forward in the direction of Stanardsville, at which place we arrived at 8.15 a. m. Here we again met a small cavalry picket, which retired in the direction of Orange Court-House. Passing through Stanardsville we kept a course south by west in the direction of Charlottesville, arriving at the Rivanna River about 3 p. m., crossing its south fork at Naked Run on a large bridge. Here we heard the locomotives of four different trains of cars approaching Charlottesville from the direction of Gordonsville and Orange Court-House.

About 1½ miles from the river we met the enemy's cavalry pickets, which were driven in toward Charlottesville. We soon, however, met a stout force of cavalry, the enemy having mean time opened fire from three pieces of artillery. We ascertained from prisoners and citizens captured that the enemy were pretty strong, having one battalion of artillery (twenty pieces), one brigade of cavalry, commanded by General Wickham, and one division of infantry. The infantry had evidently just arrived by the trains above mentioned, and I am satisfied by the reports of prisoners that there was no infantry at Charlottesville an hour before our arriving at Rivanna River.

Captain Ash, of the Fifth U. S. Cavalry, with 65 men, was sent to the left in the direction of the enemy's guns to reconnoiter. He charged the enemy's artillery camp, driving them back, and succeeded in capturing 6 caissons and 2 artillery forges, which he destroyed. He then burned their camp and camp equipage, &c. Heavy columns of infantry then appearing, Captain Ash was recalled. He joined the command, having met with no loss, 1 man being slightly wounded. We then recrossed the river, burned the bridge, and also destroyed a large flour mill near the bridge. During the day we had captured 500 horses from citizens and the enemy. We found abundance of forage and provisions through the country which we had traveled. At 9 p. m. the command was halted for the purpose of feeding and resting the horses about 8 miles southwest of Stanardsville. About that time a heavy rain set in. The night was intensely dark. After resting about an hour and a half, General Custer issued orders to proceed to Stanardsville. Colonel Stedman, with 500 men, led the advance. During the darkness his command

became separated from the main column and we lost our road. A halt was ordered. An aide was sent forward to halt Colonel Stedman's command, but the aide also lost the road and could not find him. Colonel Stedman in the mean time was on the right road and pushing rapidly forward toward Stanardsville. Several parties were sent out to intercept him, but owing to the darkness all efforts to overtake him failed. At daylight on the morning of the 1st March the main command moved forward again on the right road to Stanardsville. On our arrival there we learned that Colonel Stedman passed through the town at midnight, taking the road to Banks' Mill Ford.

About 2 miles from Stanardsville the advance guard, under the command of Captain Ash, Fifth Cavalry, came up with a rear guard of the enemy's cavalry who were following the rear of Colonel Stedman's command. As soon as they discovered our approach they charged our advance, supposing we were a small party which had been scouting and left in rear of Colonel Stedman's command. The enemy showed quite a large body of cavalry, charged our advance, drove them in rapidly to the main body. Mean time General Custer had massed his forces in a ravine out of sight of the enemy. Captain Ash fell back as far as the head of the ravine just mentioned, the enemy at the same time pouring out of the woods in large numbers. General Custer having made adequate preparations ordered a charge of his entire force. Officers and men moved forward in magnificent style, charging desperately upon the enemy, driving them back in confusion. We captured about half a dozen prisoners, and learned from them that we were fighting General Stuart with two brigades of cavalry, one brigade commanded by General Wickham. Our guns were placed in position on a ridge to the right of the ravine from whence we made the charge. Lieutenant Porter, commanding the section, immediately opened fire on the enemy with shell, and they immediately withdrew. The enemy had no artillery. We pressed them rapidly for about 2 miles, when we learned that we were on the wrong road; the road we were on led to Burton's Ford on the Rapidan, where the enemy had a force of infantry. I would here state that at the point from whence we made the charge the road forked, the one to the right running about due north to Burton's Ford, the one which the enemy had retreated on, while the other to the left running northeast direct to Banks' Mill Ford, the one we should have taken at the forks. General Custer, as soon as he ascertained this circumstance, ordered his command back to take the Banks' Mill road. The enemy followed our rear, but showed no disposition to renew the attack. We destroyed another large mill, containing flour, about 2 miles before reaching Banks' Mill Ford. We crossed the ford without further molestation and proceeded toward Madison Court-House. At the ford we destroyed Banks' Mill, containing flour and corn-meal. About 5 miles from Madison Court-House we met Colonel Stedman's command of 500 men, they having arrived at Wolftown about daylight that morning; having heard our guns about 11 a. m., the colonel moved his command in the direction of Burton's Ford, where he saw the cavalry and infantry above mentioned. Colonel Stedman had a slight skirmish with the enemy on the north side of the river near Burton's Ford, but withdrew his command and proceeded in the direction of Madison Court-House, where we overtook him.

The whole command arrived at Madison Court-House before dark

on the evening of the 1st of March, having captured 500 horses, between 50 and 60 prisoners (most, however, being citizens).

We met with no loss with the exception of half a dozen men slightly wounded, and they rode their horses into Madison Court-House. We knew of 3 of the enemy who were killed, and several wounded, the enemy having left them on the field.

I am under the impression that if we had a brigade of infantry in light marching order, between Banks' Mill Ford and Stanardsville, we could have captured the enemy's force sent out to intercept us. All inquiries failed to elicit any information as to the whereabouts of General Kilpatrick. I am satisfied that the forces we met knew nothing of his movements.

I left the command at Madison Court-House about 8 o'clock in the evening and arrived at these headquarters at 2 a. m. on the morning of the 2d.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. YATES,
*First Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps.*

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No. 3.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Francis T. Nicholls, C. S. Army.*

LYNCHBURG, *February* 29, 1864.

I have just received from Captain Mallory, commanding at Charlottesville, the following dispatch:

Enemy's cavalry 3 miles from town. Can you send me any assistance? I want infantry.

The dispatch is dated February 29, and was received 5.30 p. m. I have telegraphed to Charlottesville that I cannot. I will telegraph you again in a few moments. I have telegraphed to Captain Mallory to know more, and whether what he says is thoroughly reliable.

FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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LYNCHBURG, *February* 29, 1864.

I have just received the following dispatch from Captain Mallory, commanding at Charlottesville:

Enemy burned county bridge on road to Earlysville, and last information states they are retreating toward Greene County, from whence they came. They came within 4 miles of town when they were driven across the river at Rio Mills. Force not known; supposed to be 1,000: all cavalry. You need not send any troops until you hear from me again.

I have telegraphed Captain Mallory to keep me advised and will transmit to you his dispatches to me.

FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

General S. COOPER.

LYNCHBURG, *February* 29, 1864.

I transmit dispatch from General Lee:

Enemy's cavalry are near Charlottesville; prepare to meet them if they come to Lynchburg.

I cannot tell whether this dispatch is subsequent to the one from Captain Mallory at 8 p. m., that announced that the enemy had been driven back. I have no force but what I can get here from the citizens. I shall telegraph Captain Mallory.

FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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LYNCHBURG, *March* 1, 1864.

I have just received the following dispatch:

CHARLOTTESVILLE.

Enemy retreated toward Madison; our cavalry in pursuit.

FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

General S. COOPER.

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No. 4.

*Report of Capt. Marcellus N. Moorman, C. S. Artillery, commanding Stuart Horse Artillery.*

MARCH 4, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this command during the recent raid of the enemy into Albemarle County, Va.:

On Monday, the 29th February, about 12.30 p. m., Lieutenant Cunningham, of the First Virginia Cavalry, brought into camp the first intelligence of the approach of the enemy, stating that he had last seen them 2 miles south of Stanardsville, making in this direction. Camp was at once notified and pickets sent forward to Rio Bridge, 1¼ miles north, but before they arrived the enemy had crossed and held the bridge. At the same time a column was discovered effecting a crossing at Cook's Ford, 1½ miles below. Finding it impossible to get out of camp unless some check could be given, I opened fire with a portion of the guns of each battery, while the drivers and remaining cannoneers caught up and hitched the horses, all of which were running loose. As fast as a carriage was horsed it was moved off. Thus were all of the pieces moved out and started to the rear, except four guns, which were opened from the hill commanding camp. The enemy by this time had pressed back through camp the line of skirmishers (unarmed except a few pistols) which I had deployed in my front. Having ordered all of my guns back except two sections, I drew up behind each a mounted support, placing the remainder of those mounted, under Captains Chew and Breathed, to guard my flank and maneuver in front, making a show of cavalry, in the execution of which they deserve great credit. Just at the moment when the enemy's columns which had crossed at Cook's Ford had reached and set fire to our camp, their right, which had crossed at Rio, made a charge just in time to receive and

mistake the explosion of one of Captain Chew's caissons for the reopening of our guns, for they had just ceased firing at that point. Each column mistaking the other for his enemy fired into each other and broke. Captains Chew and Breathed, seeing their mistake, charged with their squadrons and drove the enemy with such precipitancy that I presume they have never discovered their mistake, as they never ventured to return, but drew up in line upon the opposite bank waiting the advance of the Horse. They opened upon us two pieces of artillery, to which I made no reply.

Much credit is due both to officers and men for their coolness, bravery, and self-sacrifice, leaving clothing, blankets, and all for their guns.

The loss sustained was as follows: Moorman's battery, 2 men and 2 horses captured; Chew's battery, 10 sets harness, 1 limber with canteens, 1 forge, 6 tents, 5 tent-flies, 4 tarpaulins, 60 pounds axle-grease, 15 curry-combs and brushes, 3 public horses, 40 Government bags; Breathed's battery, 9 tents, 2 horses, 3½ sets harness; McGregor's battery, 6 sets harness, 3 tent-flies, 12 bridles, 6 saddles and blankets, 4 halters, 2 mules, 4 skillets, 2 camp-kettles, 4 water-buckets. In addition to the losses enumerated I would state that the battalion suffered heavily in private effects, especially Chew's and Breathed's batteries.

In conclusion, I would inform you that I had been engaged with the enemy an hour or more when I received the accompanying dispatch* from Major Mason.

Respectfully submitted.

M. N. MOORMAN,
*Captain, Commanding Battalion Stuart Horse Artillery.*

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cav. Corps, Army Northern Virginia.*

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## FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 4, 1864.—Kilpatrick's expedition against Richmond, Va.

### SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

February 28, 1864.—Affair at Ely's Ford.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at Beaver Dam Station.
Skirmish near Taylorsville.
March 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Ashland.
Skirmishes on Brook turnpike, near Richmond.
Skirmish near Atlee's.
2, 1864.—Skirmish near Old Church.
Skirmish near Walkerton.

### REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding Army of the Potomac.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.

No. 3.—Capt. Joseph Gloskoski, Twenty-ninth New York Infantry, Acting Signal Officer.

No. 4.—Brig. Gen. Henry E. Davies, jr., U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Cavalry Corps.

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*Not found.

No. 5.—Capt. John F. B. Mitchell, Second New York Cavalry.
No. 6.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.
No. 7.—Col. Samuel P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding Cavalry Brigade.
No. 8.—Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.
No. 9.—Brig. Gen. Pierce M. B. Young, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.
No. 10.—Col. William H. Cheek, First North Carolina Cavalry, commanding brigade.
No. 11.—Capt. Edward C. Fox, Fifth Virginia Cavalry, Lomax's brigade, Fitzhugh Lee's division.
No. 12.—Col. Richard L. T. Beale, Ninth Virginia Cavalry, Chambliss' brigade, including operations January 21 to March 6.
No. 13.—Lieut. James Pollard, Ninth Virginia Cavalry.
No. 14.—Brig. Gen. Armistead L. Long, C. S. Army, commanding artillery, Second Corps.
No. 15.—Col. Walter H. Stevens, C. S. Army, commanding Richmond Defenses.
No. 16.—Capt. L. B. Anderson, North Anna Home Guards.
No. 17.—Congratulatory orders.

## No. 1.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding Army of the Potomac.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 1, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 11.30 p. m.)

No intelligence has been received from Kilpatrick's command since yesterday at 2 a. m., at which time he was passing through Spotsylvania Court-House, having captured the picket at Ely's Ford on the Rappahannock, consisting of 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 15 men. In order to make a diversion in his favor the Sixth Corps, General Sedgwick, moved from its camp on the 27th and occupied Madison Court-House. On the 28th, Brigadier-General Custer, in command of a cavalry force and a section of artillery, left Madison Court-House with instructions to attempt the destruction of the Lynchburg Railroad bridge over the Rivanna, near Charlottesville. General Custer reached the bridge, but found it strongly guarded by infantry, cavalry, and artillery. He, however, destroyed another bridge over the Rivanna, within 2 miles of the railroad, drove the enemy from a large camp, destroyed 6 caissons with ammunition, 2 forges with harness, burnt 3 large flouring mills filled with grain, took 1 standard bearing the Virginia State arms, seized 500 horses and 2 Government wagons loaded with bacon, and on his return cut his way through a large force of cavalry and artillery under Generals Stuart and Wickham, with slight loss to himself, inflicting severe loss on the enemy, and bringing back 50 prisoners, returning to Madison Court-House at 6 p. m. this day, having accomplished since his departure therefrom a march of over 100 miles. The force at Madison will be withdrawn to-morrow.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 6, 1864—12 midnight. (Received 12.30 a. m., 7th.)

The Richmond Sentinel of March 5 (yesterday) has been received, which announces the capturing at King and Queen of a part of Dahlgren's party, reported 90 men, and that Colonel Dahlgren was killed in the skirmish. I fear the account is true. The paper will be sent you to-morrow.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

Maj. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 8, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit herewith the reports of Brigadier-General Kilpatrick and subordinate officers on the recent expedition organized from this army with a view to effect the liberation of our prisoners in Richmond:

About the middle of February, when in Washington, I was informed by the honorable Secretary of War that His Excellency the President was very anxious to have his amnesty proclamation distributed within the enemy's lines, and that he had sent for Brigadier-General Kilpatrick to confer with him on the practicability of accomplishing this object in connection with a cavalry expedition.

On my return to camp General Kilpatrick submitted, through the chief of cavalry, his project hereto annexed (marked A). Having ascertained from reliable sources that Richmond was comparatively defenseless, having only about 3,000 local militia with some field batteries and a small force of cavalry, and that Hampton's division of cavalry, numbering not more than 1,500 men, were the only troops of Lee's army at Fredericksburg and between there and Richmond, I thought it practicable by a rapid and secret movement that Richmond might be carried by a *coup de main*, and our prisoners released before re-enforcements from either Petersburg or Lee's army could reach there. Instructions were accordingly given to General Kilpatrick (marked B).*

At the same time the Sixth Corps, Major-General Sedgwick, was advanced to Madison Court-House, and a cavalry command, 1,500 strong, under Brigadier-General Custer, pushed toward Charlottesville, in advance of Kilpatrick's movement, to distract the enemy's attention and prevent the detachment of any force toward Richmond. It is believed these plans succeeded perfectly so far as deceiving the enemy. General Kilpatrick reached Richmond without opposition, and his approach was unknown till very near the city. Before arriving at that point he had detached Colonel Dahlgren, in command of 500 men, to cross the James River above Richmond, and move down the south bank, and before reaching the vicinity of Richmond he detached Major Hall with 450 men to attack a force of the enemy near Ashland.

On reaching the city General Kilpatrick found himself opposed by infantry and artillery, which, in his judgment, rendered any attempt at forcing an entrance extremely hazardous. He accordingly

* See also instructions to corps commanders, &c., February 26 and 28, in Correspondence, &c., pp. 595, 597–600, 608.

made no serious attempt to enter, but, after some slight and insignificant skirmishing, withdrew his command and hurriedly made his way to Williamsburg.

Colonel Dahlgren, having been deceived by his guide, was unable to cross the James, but, following down the left bank, endeavored to enter Richmond about the time of the withdrawal of Kilpatrick. Dahlgren pushed forward vigorously, but the night overtaking him and hearing nothing from Kilpatrick, whose guns he had heard early in the afternoon, he withdrew and attempted to rejoin the main body. The next day Dahlgren became separated from his command, and being ambushed near King and Queen Court-House himself fell mortally wounded, and the small force with him (some 70 or 80 men) fell into the hands of the enemy. The rest of his detachment, under the command of Captain Mitchell, New York cavalry, after encountering numerous bodies of the enemy, succeeded in rejoining Kilpatrick's main force at Tunstall's Station, on the York River Railroad.

Captain Mitchell's report is herewith submitted, and attention called to the admirable manner in which he handled his small command.

The report of Brigadier-General Custer, whose expedition to the vicinity of Charlottesville was perfectly successful, is also transmitted herewith. *

On the return of Brigadier-General Kilpatrick, I caused a thorough inspection of his command to be made, and submit herewith the report of the inspection, showing the number of horses lost and disabled, together with the number of lost arms and equipments.

I also forward a nominal list of the killed, wounded, and missing in General Kilpatrick's command. It is believed the number of killed (2) and wounded (12) will be increased when the missing are finally accounted for. There were no casualties in General Custer's command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: In obedience to the instruction of the major-general commanding, of this date, I have the honor to state that the plan proposed by Brigadier-General Kilpatrick in the inclosed communication is not feasible at this time.

When the Stoneman raid was made last year, General Lee's army was closely engaged with the Army of the Potomac at Chancellorsville, and the country was clear, yet the damage done by that raid was repaired in a few days, while the loss to the Government was over 7,000 horses, besides the equipments and men left on the road. Had this force been retained for the Gettysburg campaign the results would have been more decisive.

* See p. 162.

General Kilpatrick might succeed in cutting the telegraph from Lee's army and from Fredericksburg to Richmond, but the telegraph by the way of Gordonsville and Lynchburg would soon notify the rebels in Richmond that our cavalry was out, and before Kilpatrick could do much damage their vulnerable points would be secured. For the success of such an expedition I would be willing to sacrifice the number of horses required, but in the present state of the roads and the facilities the rebels have, with their army disengaged and distributed for frustrating such an effort, I cannot recommend it.

In reference to the President's proclamation, I will most willingly undertake to have it freely circulated in any section of Virginia that may be desired. I do not think I am promising too much in naming even Richmond.

I am in the receipt of information from the James River which is satisfactory to me that the amnesty proclamation is freely circulating in Virginia, but that the people are so watched as to prevent much action as yet on their part. As an instance is mentioned a strong Union man at Howardsville, who has $160,000 in coin secreted, but who has never been able to escape with it.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Sub-inclosure.]

A.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 16, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders from headquarters Cavalry Corps, I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 12th instant I proceeded to Washington City and reported to the President of the United States, as directed in an order dated headquarters Cavalry Corps, February 12, 1864.

By direction of the President I afterward reported to the honorable Secretary of War and submitted, at his request, the following plan as, in my opinion, the most practicable to accomplish the double purpose of distributing the President's amnesty proclamation to the rebel command in our front, and to the inhabitants of Virginia in the various counties about Richmond; as also to destroy, as far as practicable, the enemy's communications, and attempt the release of our prisoners at Richmond.

*Plan.*—I propose, with a force of not less than 4,000 cavalry and six guns, to cross the Rapidan River at Ely's Ford and proceed to Spotsylvania Court-House, from that point to send a sufficient force of cavalry to destroy the Virginia Central Railroad at or near Frederick's Hall, to prevent infantry re-enforcements being sent from Lee's army, scouts having been sent to cut the telegraph on crossing the Rapidan River; also to send a force to destroy the Fredericksburg railroad at or near Guiney's Station, the telegraph on this road having also been previously destroyed. These parties, and others that it may be found necessary to detach, will scatter the proclamation along the line of march. With the main force I propose to move to Carmel Church and cross the North Anna River near that point, destroy the railroad bridge 3 miles below, and proceed to

Hanover Junction, unless the force stationed there is found to be too large, in which case I will avoid that point. The force sent to Guiney's Station will join me at Carmel Church. The force sent to Frederick's Hall will proceed to Goochland Court-House, destroy the canal, cross the James River, proceed down the south bank, destroy the arsenal at Bellona; also the Danville and Richmond and Petersburg and Richmond Railroads, this force afterward to act as circumstances may require. From Hanover Junction I will proceed down the Brook pike between the two railroads, cross the brook and move on Richmond, and if possible, in conjunction with troops sent from the direction of West Point, make an attempt to release our prisoners. Should this be found impossible the command can return by way of Fredericksburg, or seek temporary safety at West Point. The command will need but five days' rations and one of forage; no wagons.

From the information I have but lately received, and from my thorough knowledge of the country, I am satisfied that this plan can be safely and successfully carried out.

Respectfully submitted.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 17, 1864.

This statement of General Kilpatrick is forwarded to Major-General Meade, as requested.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 17, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

The major-general commanding desires the views of the commander of the cavalry corps respecting the feasibility of the plan; after submitting which, in writing, the commanding general of the army desires to see him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

B.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Expedition, &c.:*

The major-general commanding has directed Major-General Pleasonton, commanding Cavalry Corps, to re-enforce your command so that you will have available 4,000 officers and men and a battery of light artillery. With this force you will move with the utmost expedition possible on the shortest route past the enemy's right flank to Richmond, and by this rapid march endeavor to effect an entrance into that city and liberate our prisoners now held there and in that immediate vicinity.

To create a diversion in your favor a powerful expedition has been organized and will be in full movement to-morrow, the 28th instant, to operate toward the left flank of the enemy in the direction of Charlottesville, which will be extended to the railroad bridge across the Rivanna, in the vicinity of that town, if practicable, and the bridge destroyed. This operation will be followed up by other movements of troops, and it is expected by these means so to distract the attention of the enemy that every chance for the success of your expedition will be secured that it is practicable to provide for here.

If you succeed in liberating the prisoners you will conduct them within our lines at Williamsburg, and then, if, in your judgment, upon the facts known to you as to the disposition of the forces of the enemy and the state of the weather, it be practicable you will return to your former position in this army by way of the crossings of the Rappahannock or Rapidan. The movements intended to create a diversion in your favor will be in full operation on the 28th and 29th instant, and will extend beyond that time. You will therefore commence your movement on the night of the 28th instant.

I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that no detailed instructions are given you, since the plan of your operations has been proposed by yourself, with the sanction of the President and the Secretary of War, and has been so far adopted by him that he considers success possible with secrecy, good management, and the utmost expedition.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

*Numerical list of casualties in the Cavalry Corps during expedition of General Kilpatrick to Richmond.*

| Command. | Killed. | | Wounded. | | Missing. | | Aggregate. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | |
| First Division: | | | | | | | |
| 3d Indiana Cavalry | | 1 | | | | 2 | 3 |
| 4th New York Cavalry | | | | | | 2 | 2 |
| 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry | | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Second Division: | | | | | | | |
| 1st Maine Cavalry | | 1 | | 2 | | 48 | 51 |
| 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 4th Pennsylvania Cavalry | | | | | | 4 | 4 |
| Third Division: | | | | | | | |
| 2d New York Cavalry | | 3 | | | 2 | 66 | 71 |
| 5th New York Cavalry | | | | 2 | 1 | 20 | 23 |
| 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry | | | | 1 | | 2 | 3 |
| 5th Michigan Cavalry | | | | 2 | 1 | 47 | 50 |
| 6th Michigan Cavalry | | | | | | 5 | 5 |
| 7th Michigan Cavalry | | | | | 3 | 41 | 44 |
| 1st Vermont Cavalry | | 1 | | 4 | | 72 | 77 |
| Total | | 6 | | 12 | 7 | 310 | 335 |

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 30, 1864.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ADDENDA.*

FEBRUARY 28, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

Please send the following confidential dispatch to General Kilpatrick. The signal telegraph is just reported out of order. Let me know when Kilpatrick receives it.

FEBRUARY 28, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK:

The major-general commanding directs that you move to-night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

—

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 14, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that careful inquiry be made to ascertain whether Colonel Dahlgren made or issued such an address to his command as that which has been published in the journals of to-day; and also whether any orders or directions of the character of those contained in the memorandum following the address were given to his command or to any part of it.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

—

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that careful inquiries be made to ascertain whether Colonel Dahlgren made or issued such an address to his command as that which has been published in the journals of the day. Every effort will be made by you to learn the truth of this matter, and the officers and men of his command will be carefully questioned on this point, and the result of the investigation and whatever you may yourself know of the matter will be reported at the earliest practicable moment.

The general also desires to know whether any orders or directions of the character of those contained in the "memorandum" following the address, as printed in the public journals, were given to his command or to any portion of it.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 16, 1864.

Capt. F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: In accordance with instructions from headquarters Cavalry Corps I have carefully examined officers and men who accompanied Colonel Dahlgren on his late expedition.

All testify that he published no address whatever to his command, nor did he give any instructions, much less of the character alleged in the rebel journals in the memorandum following his address. Colonel Dahlgren, one hour before we separated at my headquarters, handed me an address that he intended to read to his command. That paper was indorsed in red ink, "Approved," over my official signature. The alleged address of Colonel Dahlgren published in the papers is the same as the one approved by me, save so far as it speaks of "*exhorting the prisoners to destroy and burn the hateful city and kill the traitor Davis and his cabinet.*" All this is false and published only as an excuse for the barbarous treatment of the remains of a brave soldier.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

—

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 22, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

DEAR GENERAL: Will you have Captain Mitchell sent to these headquarters to-morrow? I refer to the Captain Mitchell who commanded that part of Colonel Dahlgren's force that reached the main body of the expedition under General Kilpatrick.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

—

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 25, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inquire whether the instructions for General Kilpatrick, as commander of the late expedition against Richmond, sent to him from these headquarters through you, were duly received and acknowledged by him. In his report of that expedition General Kilpatrick omits all mention of or reference to these instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: General Kilpatrick duly received and acknowledged the instructions of the major-general commanding in reference to the late expedition against Richmond.

Very respectfully,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

—

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 30, 1864.

Rear-Admiral DAHLGREN:

DEAR SIR: I have received the most positive assurances from Judge Ould upon two points that may interest you. First, that the statements in the Richmond papers of any indignities to the remains of your son are false; that they were decently and properly buried under the direction of an officer of equal rank in the Confederate service. Secondly, I have the most positive assurances from him that you shall receive the remains of your son by next flag-of-truce boat.

I beg leave to add my own assurances that the moment Colonel Dahlgren s remains arrive at this point they shall be safely and most speedily forwarded to you.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

—

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. KILPATRICK:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to advise you that he desires you to send him a copy of your letter of March 15 [16], in reference to the instructions given the late Colonel Dahlgren, at the very earliest moment practicable, and that he desires to see you personally upon the subject at these headquarters as soon as the copy of the letter is forwarded.

Very respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. E. PEASE,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

—

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 16, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:*

COLONEL: I inclose herewith, for the information of the honorable Secretary of War, a letter and inclosures received from General Robert E. Lee, commanding Army of Northern Virginia, with my reply thereto.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I am instructed to bring to your notice two papers found upon the body of Col. U. Dahlgren, who was killed while commanding a part of the Federal cavalry during the late expedition of General Kilpatrick.* To enable you to understand the subject fully I have the honor to inclose photographic copies of the papers referred to, one of which is an address to his officers and men, bearing the official signature of Colonel Dahlgren, and the other, not signed, contains more detailed explanations of the purpose of the expedition and more specific instructions as to its execution. In the former this passage occurs:

> We hope to release the prisoners from Belle Island first, and having seen them fairly started, we will cross the James River into Richmond, destroying the bridges after us and exhorting the released prisoners to destroy and burn the hateful city; and do not allow the rebel leader Davis and his traitorous crew to escape. The prisoners must render great assistance, as you cannot leave your ranks too far or become too much scattered, or you will be lost.

Among the instructions contained in the second paper are the following:

> The bridges once secured, and the prisoners loose and over the river, the bridges will be secured and the city destroyed. The men must keep together and well in hand, and once in the city it must be destroyed and Jeff. Davis and cabinet killed. Pioneers will go along with combustible material.

In obedience to my instructions I beg leave respectfully to inquire whether the designs and instructions of Colonel Dahlgren, as set forth in these papers, particularly those contained in the above extracts, were authorized by the United States Government or by his superior officers, and also whether they have the sanction and approval of those authorities.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Sub-inclosure No 1.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
———— ————, 1864.

*Officers and Men:*

You have been selected from brigades and regiments as a picked command to attempt a desperate undertaking—an undertaking which, if successful, will write your names on the hearts of your countrymen in letters that can never be erased, and which will cause the prayers of our fellow-soldiers now confined in loathsome prisons to follow you and yours wherever you may go. We hope to release the prisoners from Belle Island first, and having seen them fairly started, we will cross the James River into Richmond, destroying the bridges after us and exhorting the released prisoners to destroy and burn the hateful city; and do not allow the rebel leader Davis and his traitorous crew to escape. The prisoners must render great assistance, as you cannot leave your ranks too far

*See Cooper to Lee, March 30, p. 223.

or become too much scattered, or you will be lost. Do not allow any personal gain to lead you off, which would only bring you to an ignominious death at the hands of citizens. Keep well together and obey orders strictly and all will be well; but on no account scatter too far, for in union there is strength. With strict obedience to orders and fearlessness in the execution you will be sure to succeed. We will join the main force on the other side of the city, or perhaps meet them inside. Many of you may fall; but if there is any man here not willing to sacrifice his life in such a great and glorious undertaking, or who does not feel capable of meeting the enemy in such a desperate fight as will follow, let him step out, and he may go hence to the arms of his sweetheart and read of the braves who swept through the city of Richmond. We want no man who cannot feel sure of success in such a holy cause. We will have a desperate fight, but stand up to it when it does come and all will be well. Ask the blessing of the Almighty and do not fear the enemy.

U. DAHLGREN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

[Sub-inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
———— ——, 1864.

Guides, pioneers (with oakum, turpentine, and torpedoes), signal officer, quartermaster, commissary, scouts, and picked men in rebel uniform. Men will remain on the north bank and move down with the force on south bank, not getting ahead of them, and if the communication can be kept up without giving an alarm it must be done; but everything depends upon a surprise, and no one must be allowed to pass ahead of the column. Information must be gathered in regard to the crossings of the river, so that should we be repulsed on the south side we will know where to recross at the nearest point. All mills must be burned and the canal destroyed; and also everything which can be used by the rebels must be destroyed, including the boats on the river. Should a ferry-boat be seized and can be worked, have it moved down. Keep the force on the south side posted of any important movement of the enemy, and in case of danger some of the scouts must swim the river and bring us information. As we approach the city the party must take great care that they do not get ahead of the other party on the south side, and must conceal themselves and watch our movements. We will try and secure the bridge to the city, 1 mile below Belle Island, and release the prisoners at the same time. If we do not succeed they must then dash down, and we will try and carry the bridge from each side. When necessary, the men must be filed through the woods and along the river bank. The bridges once secured, and the prisoners loose and over the river, the bridges will be secured and the city destroyed. The men must keep together and well in hand, and once in the city it must be destroyed and Jeff. Davis and cabinet killed. Pioneers will go along with combustible material. The officer must use his discretion about the time of assisting us. Horses and cattle which we do not need immediately must be shot rather than left. Everything on the canal and elsewhere of service to the rebels must be destroyed. As General Custer may follow me, be careful not to give a false alarm.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April* 17, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE, *Comdg. Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I received on the 15th instant, per flag of truce, your communication of the 1st instant, transmitting photographic copies of two documents alleged to have been found upon the body of Col. U. Dahlgren, and inquiring "whether the designs and instructions of Colonel Dahlgren, as set forth in these papers, particularly those contained in the above extracts, were authorized by the United States Government or by his superior officers, and also whether they have the sanction and approval of these authorities." In reply I have to state that neither the United States Government, myself, nor General Kilpatrick authorized, sanctioned, or approved the burning of the city of Richmond and the killing of Mr. Davis and cabinet, nor any other act not required by military necessity and in accordance with the usages of war.

In confirmation of this statement I inclose a letter from General Kilpatrick, and have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

[Sub-inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *A. A. G., Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac, I have carefully examined officers and men who accompanied Colonel Dahlgren on his late expedition.

All testify that he published no address whatever to his command, nor did he give any instructions, much less of the character as set forth in the photographic copies of two papers alleged to have been found upon the person of Colonel Dahlgren and forwarded by General Robert E. Lee, commanding Army of Northern Virginia. Colonel Dahlgren, one hour before we separated at my headquarters, handed me an address that he intended to read to his command. That paper was indorsed in red ink, "Approved." over my official signature. The photographic papers referred to are true copies of the papers approved by me, save so far as they speak of "exhorting the prisoners to destroy and burn the hateful city and kill the traitor Davis and his cabinet," and in this, that they do not contain the indorsement referred to as having been placed by me on Colonel Dahlgren's papers. Colonel Dahlgren received no orders from me to pillage, burn, or kill, nor were any such instructions given me by my superiors.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General Volunteers.*

—

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 17, 1864.
(Received 5.45 p. m.)

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN, *Washington, D. C.:*

Flag-of-truce boat arrived. Ould assures Major Mulford that upon going to the grave of Colonel Dahlgren it was found empty,

and that the most vigorous and persistent search fails to find it; that the authorities are making every exertion to find the body, which shall be restored if found.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

—

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 20, 1864.
(Received 11 p. m.)

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN,
*Washington:*

I have reliable information from Richmond that Colonel Dahlgren's body has been taken possession of by his Union friends, and has been put beyond the reach of the rebel authorities. I propose to take in the matter the course indicated in my last conversation with you. Please advise me if you wish any other.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

—

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 21, 1864.
(Received 1.45 p. m.)

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN,
*Washington, D. C.:*

The remains are not so far within my control as to be able to remove them from Richmond, where every effort is being made by the detectives to find them; but they are, I am informed and believe, in the hands of devoted friends of the Union, who have taken possession of them in order that proper respect may be shown to them at a time which I trust is not far distant. I hardly dare suggest to Ould, when he reports to me, as he will, that he cannot find them, that I can put them into his possession, because that will show such a correspondence with Richmond as will alarm them, and will redouble their vigilance to detect my sources of information. I am, however, under the direction of the President.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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No. 2.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.*

CAVALRY CORPS, *February* 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

I have the honor to forward you a copy of a dispatch just received from General Kilpatrick:

HDQRS. CAVALRY EXPEDITION,
*February* 29, 1864—1 a. m. (Via Second Corps Hdqrs.)

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

COLONEL: My advance captured the picket and reserve of the enemy at Ely's Ford, consisting of a captain, lieutenant, and 15 men. It was a complete surprise.

No alarm has been given. The enemy does not anticipate our movement. My command is crossing in good order. Colonel Dahlgren with the advance has reached Chancellorsville.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

—

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 4, 1864.

GENERAL: The following dispatch, in cipher, just received from General Kilpatrick, dated Fort Magruder, Va., March 3, 1864:

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY EXPEDITION,
*March* 3, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I have reached General Butler's lines with my command in good order. I have failed to accomplish the great object of the expedition, but have destroyed the enemy's communications at various points on the Virginia Central Railroad; also the canal and mills along the James River, and much other valuable property. Drove the enemy into and through his fortifications to the suburbs of Richmond; made several unsuccessful efforts to return to the Army of the Potomac. I have lost less than 150 men. The entire command is in good order, and needs but a few days' rest. I respectfully ask for instructions.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.*

In view of the failure of General Kilpatrick to return to this command by land, I respectfully urge that transportation be sent immediately from Alexandria to transport it by water, as his command is composed of picked troops from all the divisions of the corps, and the organization and effectiveness of the remaining divisions is seriously impaired by the absence of so large a number.

Very respectfully,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff.*

—

YORKTOWN, VA., *March* 6, 1864.

I left my camp at Stevensburg with 3,585 men, 6 guns, 8 caissons, 3 wagons, and 6 ambulances. I have now 3,317 men, 3,595 horses, 6 guns, 8 caissons, 3 wagons, and 4 ambulances. Colonel Dahlgren, with about 100 men, has been heard from to-day; he was then near King and Queen Court-House. I shall send some of my men to assist him. General Butler informs me that he has ample transportation for me. Troops can be crossed at Urbanna only at high tide. Dock destroyed. Can easily cross at Tappahannock. Gun-boats can cover my crossing.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac.*

YORKTOWN, VA., *March* 8, 1864.

GENERAL: Twelve men of Dahlgren's party have come in. They state that Colonels Dahlgren and Cooke, with about 80 men and a large number of negroes, were ambushed at King and Queen Court-House on Thursday evening, 11 p. m.* The colonel was killed and 7 men wounded. Colonel [Major] Cooke and the remainder were afterward surrounded by the citizens and soldiers on furlough. Colonel [Major] Cooke ordered his men to scatter and make for the river. The negroes were captured and confined in the jail at the court-house. Colonel Dahlgren's servant has also come in. He reports seeing the colonel's body on the roadside stripped of his clothing and horribly mutilated. I sent a large force two days since to King and Queen Court-House. It has not returned.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General, &c.*

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps.*

—

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 26th of February I received the following order, dated—

CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: Your command, increased to 4,000 men with one battery, will be placed in readiness to move on a raid to Richmond for the purpose of liberating our prisoners at that place.

You will start on Sunday evening, the 28th instant, and will proceed by such routes and make such dispositions as from time to time you may find necessary to accomplish the object of the expedition. You will not be confined to any specific instructions in reference to such matters. Col. Ulric Dahlgren is authorized to accompany you, and will render valuable assistance from his knowledge of the country and his well-known gallantry, intelligence, and energy. Important diversions will be made in your favor, the particulars of which you have been already advised. That these may be more fully and completely carried out you will direct Brigadier-General Custer to report in person to these headquarters until further orders. With my best wishes for a perfect success, and the assurance that every effort will be exerted by the service here to insure it,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

In accordance with the above instructions, I left my camp at Stevensburg at 7 o'clock Sunday evening, February 28, with 2,375 men and Captain Ransom's battery U. S. Horse Artillery (six pieces), and detachments from the First and Second Cavalry Divisions, under Majors Hall and Taylor, in all 3,582 strong.

My advance, consisting of 460 men, under Colonel Dahlgren, reached Ely's Ford at 11 p. m., crossed, surprised, and captured the enemy's picket, consisting of 2 officers and 14 men. Colonel Dahlgren was then ordered to move rapidly forward, by way of Spotsylvania Court-House, to Frederick's Hall, on the Virginia Central Railroad, and thence to a point above Goochland, on the James River, cross the river, move down the opposite bank, and, if possible, be in position to seize the main bridge that led to the city of

*Wednesday, March 2.

Richmond, at 10 o'clock Tuesday, March 1. A small force, under Captain Boice, Fifth New York Cavalry, was sent to destroy the Fredericksburg railroad below Guiney's Station, the telegraph having been destroyed on both roads by scouts during the night. I pressed rapidly forward with the main column, passed Spotsylvania Court-House at daylight, reached and destroyed Beaver Dam Station at 1 p. m., and after destroying the road to a considerable extent, moved rapidly forward in the direction of Richmond, and went into camp early in the evening 9 miles from Ground Squirrel Bridge, over the South Anna.

I moved at 1 a. m. Tuesday morning, intending to cross the South Anna at Ground Squirrel Bridge, move down the Ridge road, and attack Richmond west of the Brook pike. My guide (I think through ignorance), instead of directing the column to the bridge mentioned, led it in the direction of Ashland, where we came upon the infantry pickets of the enemy. From prisoners I learned that a force of 2,000 infantry and six pieces of artillery was stationed near the railroad bridge above Ashland.

I directed Major Hall, with 450 men of the First Division, to drive in the enemy's pickets and make a determined attack in order to cover the movements of the main column. I struck across the country to the South Anna and crossed at a point 3 miles above Ashland at daylight, Tuesday morning. The attack of Major Hall totally deceived the enemy as to the movements of the main column, which passed on, crossed the railroad 7 miles below Ashland, tore up a considerable portion of the track, destroyed a culvert, passed on and reached the Brook pike at a point 5 miles from Richmond at 10 a. m. The enemy's artillery, engaged with Major Hall, could be distinctly heard in my rear. Rightly supposing that the enemy would send all his available [force] in the immediate vicinity in the direction of the firing, in order to protect the bridge at that point, and learning from citizens and negroes who came from Richmond that morning that no attack was expected upon the city, and that only a small force occupied the works in front on the Brook pike, I moved forward, crossed the brook, surprised and captured the picket and a small force of infantry in the rifle-pits beyond. The enemy now sent forward troops to oppose my further progress, but they were easily driven back until a point was reached about 1 mile from the city. Here a considerable force of infantry with artillery effectually checked my advance. It was now 1 p. m. I ordered up my entire force, and after thoroughly examining the enemy's position, determined to attack, believing that if they were citizen soldiers I could enter the city.

Brigadier-General Davies had the advance. The [Fifth New York Cavalry was] dismounted and sent forward as skirmishers, and 500 men under [Major Patton] in a body, dismounted, followed closely in rear of the skirmishers to attack and carry if possible a small earth-work on the left of and a barricade that the enemy were then placing in the road. The enemy was finally forced back until a position was gained for the use of my artillery, which was brought up and opened upon the enemy, now occupying a position just outside the city.

I brought up re-enforcements, strengthened and extended my line of skirmishers to the right as far as the plank road, and was about to order an advance of the whole line, when I discovered that the enemy was rapidly receiving re-enforcements, not only of infantry

but artillery. Feeling confident that Dahlgren had failed to cross the river, and that an attempt to enter the city at that point would but end in a bloody failure, I reluctantly withdrew my command at dark, crossed the Meadow Bridge over the Chickahominy, and, after destroying the bridges on the Virginia Central Railroad, went into camp near Mechanicsville.

Colonel Dahlgren, having failed to cross the James River, moved rapidly down the canal, destroying viaducts and locks, and engaged the enemy at 4 o'clock on the plank road a few miles from Richmond, and at dark, when I withdrew my command, had driven the enemy near to the city. He then withdrew with the intention of joining the main force.

In the various attacks upon the city, which commenced at 12 m. and continued until dark, we lost upward of 60 men in killed and wounded. The enemy is known to have lost a considerable number in killed and wounded, and we took prisoners upwards of 200. By scouts and spies I ascertained that the entire available force of the enemy in and about the city had been concentrated during the day on the Brook pike and plank road, where the various attacks had been made, and that no force of the enemy was on the road from Mechanicsville to the city. It was now 10 p. m. I at once determined to make another attempt to enter the city. Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, of the First Vermont, and Major Taylor, of the First Maine, were selected to lead two separate detachments of 500 men in on the road from Mechanicsville, while with the artillery and the remaining portion of my command I would hold the bridge over the Chickahominy and cover their retreat with the prisoners if successful. These two determined and daring officers had but just commenced to move when Colonel Sawyer, commanding Second Brigade, reported that his pickets had been driven in on the road from the direction of Hanover Court-House. A few moments later he sent me word that the enemy was advancing in force and rapidly driving in his people. I sent orders for him to throw out a strong line of skirmishers, and, if possible, charge the enemy and drive him back, as I intended to make this last effort to release our prisoners. Heavy musketry and carbine firing could now be heard, and a moment later the enemy opened with a battery of artillery. I was forced to recall my troops to resist this attack, which now became serious. The enemy charged and drove back the Seventh Michigan, and considerable confusion ensued. The night was intensely dark, cold, and stormy. The command was moved out on the road toward Old Church and placed into position, and, after considerable hard fighting, with a loss of 2 officers, upwards of 50 men, and 100 horses, repulsed the enemy and forced him back on the road toward Hanover Court-House. Not knowing the strength of the enemy, I abandoned all further ideas of releasing our prisoners, and at 1 a. m. moved to the intersection of the roads from Mechanicsville to Old Church, and from Hanover Court-House to Bottom's Bridge. Here we went into camp.

At daylight the enemy attacked my pickets, but were easily repulsed. At 8 a. m. the command moved to Old Church, 12 miles from Hanover Court-House, and here took up a good position and remained until 1 p. m. Wednesday, hoping that Dahlgren might come in. The enemy charged my rear guard at this point, but were gallantly charged in return by the First Maine, and driven back a considerable distance, with a loss of many prisoners. This is the last

I saw of the enemy. From the prisoners I learned that they belonged to Hampton's division, and that it was he who attacked me the night before; that he had with him a large force of mounted infantry and cavalry and four pieces of artillery, and that he had retired to Hanover Junction, expecting me to move in that direction.

Taking this fact into consideration, and the condition of my command, I decided to move by the nearest route to General Butler's lines at New Kent Court-House. The command went into camp near Tunstall's Station Wednesday evening. Here Captain Mitchell, with upward of 300 officers and men belonging to Colonel Dahlgren's party, joined me. Captain Mitchell reported that Colonel Dahlgren and Major Cooke with about 100 men became separated from the main portion of his command during the night, since which time he had heard nothing of the colonel or his party.

We moved early Thursday morning to New Kent Court-House, where we were met by Colonel Spear and a considerable force of infantry and cavalry, sent out by Major-General Butler to assist us. Colonel Dahlgren, after becoming separated from the main portion of his command, crossed the Pamunkey at Hanovertown and the Mattapony at Aylett's. Here he defeated a superior force of the enemy, captured nearly as many prisoners as he had men, and gallantly fought his way to a point within 3 miles of King and Queen Court-House, where he was ambushed, fired upon, and killed, and his little party of brave men, then under command of the gallant Lieutenant-Colonel [Major] Cooke, surrounded by a large force of citizens and regular soldiers, and all save 21 were taken prisoners. These latter abandoned their horses and made their way on foot to Gloucester Point.

The outrageous treatment of the remains of Colonel Dahlgren and the cruel and barbarous manner in which his men were hunted down and captured by citizens and soldiers with dogs determined me to visit the neighborhood of King and Queen Court-House with a sufficient force to punish those who had been engaged in the murder of Colonel Dahlgren and the capture of his men. With about 2,000 cavalry, three regiments of infantry, and a battery of artillery, under command of Brigadier-General Wistar, we marched to Plymouth, near King and Queen Court-House, from which point Colonel Onderdonk, of the First New York Mounted Rifles, pushed forward to King and Queen Court-House and Carlton's Store, drove the enemy, some 1,200 strong, from his camp, destroyed the camp, and pursued him upward of 10 miles, killing and wounding a large number and capturing 35 prisoners. After destroying a large amount of rebel stores collected at King and Queen Court-House the command returned to camp without loss of a man.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of property destroyed and damage done to the enemy during this raid. The Virginia Central Railroad was destroyed to a considerable extent near Frederick's Hall, at Beaver Dam, as well as the depot and stores of all kinds collected at this point. Culverts were destroyed and tracks torn up above and below Ashland, and the railroad bridges over the Chickahominy. Several viaducts and locks were destroyed on the canal at different points for a distance of 30 miles above Richmond. Eight large mills along the James River were burned, filled with flour and grain belonging to the Confederate Government.

Several thousand of the President's amnesty proclamations were scattered throughout the entire country, and I am satisfied that if

Colonel Dahlgren had not failed in crossing the river, which he did either through the ignorance or treachery of his guide, or had the enemy at Bottom's Bridge been forced to remain at that point by a threatened attack from the direction of Yorktown, I should have entered the rebel capital and released our prisoners.

The expedition failed in its great object, but through no fault of the officers and men accompanying it. All did their duty bravely, promptly, and well, and for which they deserve the highest praise.

I will forward at the earliest possible moment a correct statement of my entire loss of men, animals, and equipments, as well as a nominal list of the killed, wounded, and missing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

Capt. F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.*

*ADDENDA.*

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-GENERAL,
*March* 22, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward herewith a tabular statement showing the losses of the command which accompanied General Kilpatrick on his recent expedition.

I have the honor to state, in addition, that the inspections made of these troops discovered a large number of horses rendered unserviceable from sore backs and overexertion. There are of these, in the First Division, 180; in the Second Division, 200; in the Third Division, 100. All the animals, of course, are much pulled down by the unavoidable fatigues and hardships of such an expedition, and all require recuperation before the renewal of very active duty. The health of the men of the command was not unfavorably affected by this expedition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Inspector-General.*

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

*Report of officers, men, and horses of the Cavalry Corps returned from General Kilpatrick's expedition, with a statement of losses, &c., as required by orders from the major-general commanding Army of the Potomac, dated Washington, March* 12, 1864.

| Strength, loss, &c. | Division. | | | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | First. | Second. | Third. | |
| Strength of command that started: | | | | |
| Officers | 35 | 17 | 104 | 156 |
| Men | 676 | 479 | 2,284 | 3,439 |
| Aggregate | 711 | 496 | 2,388 | 3,595 |
| Horses | 681 | 482 | 2,472 | 3,635 |
| Strength of command that returned: | | | | |
| Officers | 34 | 16 | 97 | 147 |
| Men | 667 | 377 | 2,064 | 3,108 |
| Aggregate | 701 | 393 | 2,161 | 3,255 |
| Horses | 622 | 333 | 2,097 | 3,052 |

*Report of officers, men, and horses of Cavalry Corps, &c.*—Continued.

| Strength, loss, &c. | Division. | | | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | First. | Second. | Third. | |
| Loss: | | | | |
| Officers | 1 | 1 | 7 | 9 |
| Men | 9 | 102 | 220 | 331 |
| Aggregate | 10 | 103 | 227 | 340 |
| Horses | 59 | 149 | 375 | 583 |
| Arms, accouterments, horse equipments, &c., lost: | | | | |
| Spencer rifles | ..... | ..... | 90 | 90 |
| Spencer carbines | ..... | ..... | 59 | 59 |
| Sharps carbines | 41 | 106 | 191 | 338 |
| Burnside carbines | ..... | ..... | 107 | 107 |
| Colt army pistols | 43 | 100 | 373 | 516 |
| Cavalry sabers | 32 | 85 | 388 | 505 |
| Saber belts and plates | 18 | 81 | 333 | 432 |
| Pistol holsters | 43 | 92 | 208 | 343 |
| Spencer rifle cartridge-boxes and slings | ..... | ..... | 75 | 75 |
| Sharps carbine cartridge-boxes and slings | ..... | ..... | 176 | 176 |
| Burnside carbine cartridge-boxes and swivel | ..... | ..... | 104 | 104 |
| Pistol cartridge-boxes | ..... | 94 | 264 | 358 |
| Cap-pouches | 3 | 55 | ..... | 58 |
| Saber knots | ..... | 85 | ..... | 85 |
| Carbine cartridge-boxes | 7 | 98 | ..... | 105 |
| Saddles, complete | 32 | ..... | 175 | 207 |
| Halters and straps | 25 | ..... | 206 | 231 |
| Saddle blankets | ..... | ..... | 222 | 222 |
| Curb bridles | 41 | ..... | 198 | 239 |
| Spurs and straps | ..... | ..... | 128 | 128 |
| Horse equipments | ..... | 128 | 304 | 432 |
| Surcingles | 25 | ..... | ..... | 25 |
| Haversacks | ..... | 130 | ..... | 130 |
| Canteens | ..... | 145 | ..... | 145 |
| Great-coats | ..... | 78 | ..... | 78 |
| Bed blankets | ..... | 82 | ..... | 82 |
| Ponchos | ..... | 138 | ..... | 138 |
| Axes and helves | ..... | 2 | ..... | 2 |
| Bugles | ..... | 1 | ..... | 1 |
| Carbine slings and swivels | 21 | 94 | ..... | 115 |

Respectfully submitted.

F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Inspector-General.*

ASST. INSP. GEN.'S OFFICE, HDQRS. CAV. CORPS,
*March* 22, 1864.

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## No. 3.

*Report of Capt. Joseph Gloskoski, Twenty-ninth New York Infantry, Acting Signal Officer.*

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders I have the honor to make the following report of services performed by me in the late expedition of General Kilpatrick's cavalry:

In order to give you a correct idea of what was executed by me and Lieutenant Bartley, it will be necessary to make a brief sketch of that expedition or raid.

We (General Kilpatrick's command) left Stevensburg on the 28th ultimo at 7 p. m. Colonel Dahlgren with some 600 picked men went an hour in advance of the main column. Lieutenant Bartley accom-

panied Colonel Dahlgren; I remained with General Kilpatrick. The first night of our march was beautiful. Myriads of stars twinkled in heaven, looking at us as if in wonder why should we break the laws of God and wander at night instead of seeking repose and sleep. The moon threw its silvery light upon Rapidan waters when we forded it, and it seemed as if the Almighty Judge was looking silently upon our doings. We moved as fast as our horses could walk, making halts of fifteen minutes twice every twenty-four hours. Thus we reached Spotsylvania Court-House. There Colonel Dahlgren with his command took direct road toward Frederick's Hall, while we moved to Beaver Dam Station. From this point I was expected and put signaling in motion. This was not easy, for moving fast as we did there was no time to look for a signal flag. To remain behind for that purpose would not be prudent or safe, and even if it were safe it would not be of much avail, for the country through which we moved is flat, low, and wooded. By the time we reached Beaver Dam Station it grew dark and rain began to fall. The light, however, that was there might have been seen for many miles. Twenty wooden buildings were at once set on fire, forming one sheet of flame, rising high above the surrounding woods, and the black forms of our soldiers jumping around it seemed from a distance like demons on some hellish sport. Here a small force of rebel infantry appeared, but not strong enough to detain us, and we moved on toward South Anna River. Now it stormed in earnest. Sharp wind and sleet forced men to close their eyes. The night was so dark that even the river in front could not be seen and trees on the roadside could not be distinguished. So complete darkness I never saw. Men depended entirely on the instinct of their horses, and the whole command on a negro to guide them. Stopping for a short time I sent up by order of General Kilpatrick several rockets, but of course received no reply. No rockets could be seen for any distance on such a night as that.

Next day, the 1st of March, we were in front of Richmond. No sooner were we in view of the fortifications than the enemy's guns opened fire. Here I had time to look for Colonel Dahlgren's signals. None could be seen, however, owing partly to woods, mist, and smoke, and want of knowledge of his whereabouts. He was to join us at this point or in Richmond if we or he had succeeded in taking it by surprise. In my opinion the sound of our and rebel guns were signals loud enough; from that sound he might have judged correctly how far we were from his command. That sound told plainly that Richmond was not to be taken by surprise, and that the weaker detachment ought not to lose time in joining with the main command. When near sunset we moved off toward Chickahominy and encamped for the night. There I barely escaped capture, for riding out on reconnaissance to learn where we were and the roads, I found rebel pickets on each road, and some were trying to cut me off on my return to camp. We were not destined to sleep in that camp, for no sooner were we laid down than the rebels opened fire from two guns on our camps and their cavalry charged on some of our regiments. Dark and rainy as it was not much confusion ensued. Ours repulsed the rebel attack and we moved out of that place toward Pamunkey River. Next day the largest portion (400 men) of Colonel Dahlgren's force joined us. I could learn as yet nothing of Lieutenant Bartley. From this point we had no trouble in reaching Yorktown on the 4th. Next day we embarked for

Portsmouth, landed there on the 6th, moved toward Suffolk, saw no rebel forces, and returned to Portsmouth the same day, and the next to Yorktown. There we learned of Colonel Dahlgren's death and the capture of his party.

General Kilpatrick with a portion of his command made an expedition to King and Queen County. As this expedition was to be only a mere retaliation for the death and bad treatment of Colonel Dahlgren, I accompanied it only as far as West Point. That is as far as our gun-boats went, and I returned in a gun-boat to Yorktown.

On the 12th we embarked for Alexandria; that is, the command began to embark as fast as there was transportation for it. By this time the whole command is perhaps in Alexandria. General Kilpatrick went ahead and left orders for his staff to follow him.

Yesterday one brigade of cavalry and General Kilpatrick's personal escort had orders to move on. In anticipation that they would move, I ordered my flagmen and wagon to move with the escort and came myself by rail to Brandy Station and thence to these headquarters; but here I learned that the orders were countermanded by telegraph, and that the cavalry would leave Alexandria to-morrow (Thursday, the 17th).

From this statement you will see that there was not much opportunity to use signals, owing partly to our very rapid movements, partly to the inclemency of the weather, and often to the position of the country. I found signal officers at Yorktown, Gloucester, and Portsmouth. I regret to state that Lieutenant Bartley, with his 2 men, full signal equipments, and supply of rockets, were captured.

It is known to you that the destination and purpose of that expedition before its leaving Stevensburg was kept so secret, seemingly, that only the chief commanders were acquainted with it, although for two weeks previous there were loud rumors in camp among soldiers and civilians that we were going to make a raid on Richmond.

I inclose the code for rocket signals I arranged at the time of our starting. I knew nothing of what was needed at the time I had the interview with you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. GLOSKOSKI,
*Captain and Acting Signal Officer.*

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No. 4.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Henry E. Davies, jr., U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Cavalry Corps.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
*Stevensburg, Va., April* 4, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: Pursuant to orders received this a. m. from division headquarters, I have the honor to forward the following report of the operations of my command on the recent raid to Richmond:

On the 28th day of February a detachment of the First Division, Cavalry Corps, commanded by Major Hall, Sixth New York Cavalry, reported to me, consisting of detachments from various regiments of that division, in all amounting to 34 commissioned officers and 697 enlisted men; a detachment of the Second Division, Cavalry

Corps, commanded by Major Taylor, First Maine Cavalry, also reported to me, consisting of detachments from various regiments of that division, in all amounting to 19 commissioned officers and 472 enlisted men. I took on the 28th from my own brigade (First Brigade, Third Division) the men who were well mounted, amounting in all to 27 commissioned officers and 568 enlisted men, giving me when we moved a total of 80 commissioned officers and 1,737 enlisted men. From this force, before the movement of the main body of the expedition, I detached the following parties to report to Colonel Dahlgren: Second New York Cavalry, 100 men; Fifth New York Cavalry, 40 men; detachment Second Division, 150 men; making a total of 290 men. This detachment was under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel [Major] Cooke, Second New York Cavalry.

My command left their camps at Stevensburg shortly after dark on the evening of February 28, marched to Ely's Ford on the Rapidan, and crossed at that point; thence on through Spotsylvania Court-House, on the morning of the 29th of February, and across the Po River. Here a halt of about an hour was made to feed. The brigade then moved forward through Mount Pleasant, New Market, and Chilesburg to the North Anna River. This stream was crossed at Anderson's Ford, and I reached Beaver Dam Station between 3 and 4 p. m. Here the railroad depot, water-tanks, store-house, &c., were destroyed, the switches, turn-outs, and track pulled up and burned, the telegraph cut, and the poles taken down for a considerable distance. An attempt was made to capture a railroad train that was heard approaching from Richmond, but taking alarm from the burning buildings at the station, it succeeded in backing out of the way before my men could reach it. A slight skirmish occurred here between my advanced guard and some 25 dismounted men of the enemy, who fired a volley and then made their escape in the woods. The command moved from Beaver Dam some 6 miles on the road to Ground Squirrel Bridge, and went into camp about 8 p. m.

At 11 p. m. Major Hall, Sixth New York Cavalry, with a detail of 450 men from the First Division detachment, was sent to make an attack on the South Anna railroad bridge, and between 12 p. m. and 1 a. m. of the 1st day of March my command moved out of camp and took the road to Richmond. Before reaching the South Anna my advanced guard met and drove from position a small force of the enemy's infantry, who appeared to be on picket duty. The South Anna River was crossed at daylight at a bridge about 2 miles west of the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad, and a short halt made to enable the division to close up. I then moved toward Richmond, passing Ashland Station about a mile to my left, and crossing the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad some 2 miles below Ashland. At this point the telegraph and railroad were destroyed, and a party sent, in charge of Lieutenant Whitaker, aide-de-camp on the staff of the general commanding division, to destroy a bridge on the line of the road, which object I believe was accomplished.

The brigade then moved forward to and crossed the Chickahominy, came on to the Brook turnpike road, and advanced on this road toward Richmond. About 2 miles before reaching the brook, a picket-post of 4 mounted men was captured and brought in, and from that time we constantly fell in with small parties of the enemy, apparently sent out for the purpose of observing our movements, several of whom were captured.

At the bridge on the turnpike, where it crosses the brook, a few of the enemy were met, who immediately retreated on the appearance of my advanced guard, who made 2 or 3 prisoners, and several who had hidden in the woods came out and gave themselves up.

The first line of works that we met was on the south side of the brook, commanding the bridge and the ford, but were not manned. After crossing the brook my column moved forward on the pike, encountering no resistance until about 1 p. m., when they came within sight of a line of earth-works, stretching to the right and left of the road 2 miles from the brook, from which the enemy immediately opened with artillery. The position that they occupied was a good one. The country for 1,000 yards in front of the works was open and perfectly level, affording no cover or position whence our artillery could be used to any advantage. The approach by the road was defended by a section of artillery, having a perfect range of the whole ground, and also enfiladed by the fire of two guns on our right and four on our left, and it was impracticable from the nature of the ground to maneuver cavalry on either side of the road except as skirmishers, the fields being very soft and muddy, and intersected with wide and deep ditches.

I ordered the Fifth New York Cavalry to deploy as skirmishers on the right and left of the road, and to advance as far as practicable toward the enemy, and gave directions for the rest of my command to form, while I went forward to examine the ground. I concluded that the best method of attack would be to send forward a strong party of dismounted men on the left of the road, where they could for some distance be kept out of view by some houses that stood on that side of the road, and when they were well engaged to make an attack down the road covered by our artillery. An attacking force of 500 men taken from the different regiments of the command, armed with carbines, was formed and placed under the orders of Major Patton, Third Indiana Cavalry, who was instructed to keep well to the left and make a determined attack upon the earthworks on that side, and to gain, if possible, a position where he could bring his fire to bear upon the enemy's guns. The rest of the command with the exception of the Fifth New York Cavalry, who were deployed and had been ordered to advance simultaneously with Major Patton, were formed ready to charge as soon as the diversion I had intended could be effected.

Major Patton advanced with his men, and as soon as he got within range the enemy in considerable force opened upon him with musketry. I was soon afterward directed by the general commanding division to withdraw my men and take the road to the Meadow Bridges, covering the rear of the division. Major Patton, on coming back, reported that the enemy had exhibited a considerable force of infantry when he began his attack, but could not say with any certainty what number he observed. The enemy on the falling back of my command threw out from their works about 200 infantry skirmishers, who were checked by my rear guard and made no further demonstrations.

As we were moving on the road to the Meadow Bridges Major Hall, who had been detached the previous night to attack the South Anna railroad bridge, rejoined my command, reporting that he had found the bridges strongly guarded with infantry and artillery, and he could not accomplish the objected for which he was sent.

I moved down the road to the Meadow Bridges, setting fire to the

railway trestle-work at that place and destroying the road bridges after I had crossed, and went into camp near Mechanicsville, picketing in my rear and on both flanks.

The enemy during the evening skirmished slightly with my pickets, and about 12 p. m. attacked the Second Brigade in force. My command at once mounted and formed, but the Second Brigade, unassisted, repulsed the attack made on them, and I moved to the vicinity of Old Church, which was reached about 4 a. m. on the morning of the 2d of March. About 8 a. m. I moved my command about 1 mile beyond Old Church, and there took up a position. The enemy's cavalry in small force appeared, but were instantly put to flight by a squadron of the First Maine Cavalry, which drove them at the first attack. I then moved on to the vicinity of Tunstall's Station, where the brigade encamped for the night. While on the road this day I was overtaken by Captain Mitchell, Second New York Cavalry, who brought in about 250 of the men who had been sent on the expedition intrusted to Colonel Dahlgren.

The next morning, March 3, I moved on the Williamsburg road, meeting a short distance from the station a portion of the command sent up by Major-General Butler to New Kent Court-House. I marched through New Kent Court-House that day as far as the Twelve-Mile Ordinary, where I went into camp for the night.

The following day, March 4, I marched through Williamsburg to Yorktown, where I went into camp in the afternoon.

On Saturday evening, March 5, pursuant to orders from division headquarters, I ordered Major Hall with 400 men to march to Newport News, there to embark on transports for Portsmouth, Va., while with 400 more men of the command I embarked at Yorktown on transports for Portsmouth. The whole command reached Portsmouth about 11 a. m. on Sunday, March 6, and after moving out from the town it was found that the emergency that required our presence no longer existed. I therefore went into camp near Portsmouth that evening.

The following two days, March 7 and 8, were occupied in shipping the men and horses back to Yorktown, where I returned on the afternoon of the 8th of March.

Wednesday, March 9, I received orders to embark my brigade on transports to return to the Army of the Potomac, landing at Alexandria. I reached Alexandria on the morning of March 10, and the same day the Fifth New York Cavalry and Ransom's battery, with detachments from other regiments, arrived there.

March 11, the Fifth New York Cavalry started for Stevensburg, which they reached on the evening of the 12th.

On the 11th the whole of the Second New York and Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry and a portion of the detachment from the Second Division reached Alexandria. These men, together with the battery, were sent forward to the Army of the Potomac on the 12th of March, under command of Colonel Bryan, Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and reached their camps on the morning of the 14th. The remainder of the Second Division detachment reached Alexandria on the 12th, and moved out to rejoin their command on the morning of the 13th, and the detachment from the First Division reaching Alexandria on the 13th moved on the 14th to their former headquarters.

I believe that the above will include all the movements of the force under my command on the late expedition.

I have already forwarded to division headquarters nominal and numerical lists of killed, wounded, and missing, as well as of property, &c., lost and captured.

Respectfully submitted.

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Lieut. E. W. WHITAKER,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 5.

*Report of Capt. John F. B. Mitchell, Second New York Cavalry.*

CAMP SECOND NEW YORK VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
*Stevensburg, Va., March* 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders received from the general commanding division, I have the honor to make the following report relative to what was done by the expedition commanded by the late Colonel Dahlgren, and also as to the facts connected with the orders and papers alleged to have been found on his person:

The command amounted to 500 men, and consisted of detachments from the First Maine, First Vermont, Fifth Michigan, Fifth and Second New York Volunteer Cavalry. We left division headquarters at Stevensburg, Va., at 6 p. m. February 28, 1864, and marched to Ely's Ford, which we reached about 11 p. m. We crossed the river, and a party of the Fifth New York Cavalry, under Lieutenant Merritt, and Hogan, the scout, captured the enemy's picket-post, 1 officer and 14 men, belonging to a North Carolina regiment of cavalry. The colonel then pressed on to Spotsylvania Court-House, which he reached at early dawn on the 29th February, marched on in the direction of Frederick's Hall till 8 a. m., when he halted for fifteen minutes to feed the horses; then pressed on again to within three-fourths of a mile of Frederick's Hall Station, which we reached about 11 a. m.

On the road we captured 16 artillery soldiers belonging to the Maryland Battalion. They told us that at the station there were three different camps, eight batteries in each, in all about ninety-six guns; that there was a regiment of infantry near at hand and a battalion of sharpshooters in each camp. Here we captured also 12 artillery officers on court-martial—1 colonel, 1 major, and 8 or 9 captains. What information they gave to Colonel Dahlgren I am unable to state, but he determined not to attack the camp and moved around them, cutting the railroad and telegraph about 1 mile south of the station. While we were engaged tearing up the railroad and bending the rails, a train came down from the north, but seeing the smoke of our fires, did not come near enough for us to attack.

We now pushed on to the South Anna, which we crossed about 10 o'clock on the night of the 29th instant. It was raining and so intensely dark that it was almost impossible to keep the column closed up, and some 50 men were lost in the darkness, but joined us again in the morning near Goochland Court-House. About 2 a. m. the colonel halted. The name of the place I am unable to state, but think it was about 9 miles from Goochland.

At daylight of the morning of the 1st of March we marched on toward the James River and stopped for a few minutes near Horton's house, on the canal, about 21 miles from Richmond. Here Colonel Dahlgren gave me orders to take the detachment (100 men) of the Second New York Cavalry, the ambulances, prisoners, led horses, &c., and proceed down the canal, destroying locks, burning mills, canal-boats, and all the grain I could find; that when I came to Westham Creek I should send the ambulances, prisoners, &c., under guard to Hungary Station, there to join General Kilpatrick and the main column; that I was then to proceed down the river road or the canal, as I might see fit, while he, with the main portion of his command, was to cross the James River at a ford which his guide was to show him, release the prisoners, and enter Richmond by, I believe, the Mayo Bridge. Here I was to join him, if possible; if not, make my way to Hungary Station and join General Kilpatrick. He then divided the torpedoes, giving me one box, some turpentine and oakum. He then started ahead of me. I struck the canal and moved down along its bank, sending the ambulances, &c., under guard of Lieutenant Randolph and 20 men, on the river road, with orders to join me at Manakin's Bend. Along the canal I destroyed six flourishing grist-mills, filled with grain and flour, one saw-mill, six canal-boats, loaded with grain, the barn (also well filled) on Secretary Seddon's plantation, coal-works at Manakin's Ferry, and Morgan's Lock just above. Here I found that there were neither canal-boats, locks, nor mills on the canal till the Three-Mile Lock, *i. e.*, 3 miles from Richmond. I could not bring the ambulances on the tow-path, so I took the river road again, reaching which I was surprised to find the tracks of Colonel Dahlgren's party, and farther on the dead body of a negro hanging from a tree on the roadside. It seems that Colonel Dahlgren intended to cross the James River by a ford, to which his guide (this negro) promised to guide him. There was neither ford nor bridge; the guide had known it, and in his indignation the colonel hung him.

Colonel Dahlgren, finding there was no way to cross the James save by a very small scow, abandoned the project and proceeded to the cross-roads, about 8 miles from Richmond, I think near Short Pump. Here I joined him about 3.30 p. m. He now sent off the ambulances, prisoners, led horses, &c., under guard and in charge of the signal officer. That is the last I saw of them. At this place we captured 3 militiamen, splendidly mounted, belonging to Custis Lee's City Battalion, who had been sent out to stand picket against us, as they had just heard of our approach.

The colonel having seized three wagon loads of corn, ordered the horses fed and coffee made for the men. We halted for an hour and a half, then hearing General Kilpatrick's guns, we advanced inside the fortifications, crossing the railroad down the plank road toward Richmond. About 5 miles from the city we were met by a volley from the woods, the Fifth Michigan in the advance. It was now growing dark, but we pushed on. At first there was some wavering. Every now and then a volley was poured into the ranks. It grew rapidly darker and darker; soon you could see nothing but the flash of the enemy's muskets. They were dismounted, and the only way we had of advancing was to charge over their line of skirmishers. This was done time and again, taking over 200 prisoners, but also losing heavily in killed and wounded. Finally, from the increased fire it appeared that the enemy had received re-enforcements, and

the colonel gave the order to retire after we had driven the enemy 2½ miles. He called for the Second New York and ordered me to take command of the rear guard and keep well closed up with the main column. He proceeded to the point where we first struck the plank road; here the column halted. After some time, becoming anxious as to the reason, I sent forward Lieutenant Mattison, acting adjutant Second New York Cavalry, who reported that the column had become separated; that Colonel Dahlgren and Major Cooke with about 100 men had gone on, and the rest of the column had lost sight of them in the darkness. I sent out scouts in all directions, but could hear nothing of them, and being the senior officer left assumed command. In obedience to orders mentioned above, I tried to go to Hungary Station. After reaching the Brook pike and getting within 1½ miles of Hungary Station, the advance guard was halted by a picket, who, on finding out whom we were, immediately fell back. We could see camp-fires ahead of us, and could also hear cannonading and the rattle of small-arms. The officers of the command all thought that we had better make a dash through their line, if possible. This we attempted, and were met by a galling fire from a log-house and bushes along the road. Here the scout Kearney and some others were severely wounded. We were forced to desist, and countermarched toward Short Pump. Captain Hastings, Fifth Michigan Cavalry, found from some citizens that there was a by-road by means of which we could get to Hungary Station, and we marched to within 1½ miles of that place. Previous to this, finding it impossible to keep the prisoners up with the column, and being surrounded on all sides, I released those whom we had captured early in the evening, somewhat to their disappointment. Acting on Lieutenant Cunningham's advice, I moved the command into the pine woods about one-quarter of a mile from the road. This was about 2 a. m., March 2. We could hear the rebel cavalry moving on the road, and finally they encamped about one-half a mile away from us.

Before dawn we marched out toward Hungary, found that General Kilpatrick was not there, and then took a mountain road, which led to the Louisa Court-House and Richmond turnpike. Crossing this we attempted to go to the plank road leading to Hanover Court-House, but were stopped by a strong line of infantry skirmishers. We then learned that there was a heavy force awaiting us at Ground Squirrel Bridge over the South Anna, so we turned to the right, crossed the Chickahominy at Riles' Mills, and found a Union citizen, who put us on the road to Atlee's Station. On reaching this place we drove in a picket of 35 men, and our column, more especially the rear guard of the First Vermont Cavalry, was fired on by a number of mounted rebels.

We pushed on toward New Castle, making our way to the White House, having learned that General Kilpatrick had gone that way with the main force. Every few minutes the advance guard would have a skirmish with some of the enemy, till finally, about 8 miles from Tunstall's Station, the enemy seemed to have collected their forces, about 200 in number, and opposed our farther passage by well directed volleys from the pine woods in front. We determined to charge through them, Lieutenant Andrew, of the First Maine, and Lieutenant Cunningham, of the Second New York, leading the charge and driving the enemy before them. In this charge we lost about 20 men; Captain Hastings, of the Fifth Michigan Cavalry, having his horse shot under him. About an hour and a half after this I joined

General Kilpatrick's main column near Tunstall's Station, about 4 miles from the White House. We reached him about 5.30 p. m. with about 260 men.

To Captain Hastings, Fifth Michigan Cavalry, Lieutenant Andrew, First Maine, and Lieutenants Mattison and Cunningham, Second New York Cavalry, I am indebted for valuable aid and counsel. The prompt obedience and ready co-operation of the officers and men of all detachments in the expedition deserve my greatest thanks. The movements of Colonel Dahlgren and Major Cooke, after our separation, are better known to you than to myself.

With regard to the address and memoranda of plans alleged by rebel papers to have been found on Colonel Dahlgren's person, I would state that no address of any kind was ever published to either officers or men; that none of Colonel Dahlgren's plans, save what I have mentioned in the first part of my report, were ever made known to either officers or men in the expedition, and that I know it was not Colonel Dahlgren's intention to kill Jeff. Davis, in case he could be captured.

The following is a list of killed, wounded, and missing as accurately as I can get it: One officer killed, 4 officers missing, 194 enlisted men killed, wounded, and missing. Of this number about 60 are believed to be either killed or wounded.

Respectfully submitted.

JNO. F. B. MITCHELL,
*Captain Second New York Volunteer Cavalry.*

Capt. L. G. ESTES,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 6.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 3, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 8.40 a. m., 4th.)

The following dispatch received from my aide at Fort Magruder, who went out with my forces to New Kent Court-House:

Arrived all safe. General Kilpatrick is here, having lost less than 150 men, among whom were Colonels Dahlgren, [Major] Cooke, and Litchfield. Colonels Dahlgren and [Major] Cooke are supposed to be prisoners; Litchfield either wounded or killed. Went within outer line of fortifications; was engaged until dark with the enemy. Colonel Spear will be in to-morrow.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 4, 1864.
(Received 2.30 a. m., 5th.)

I forward the annexed account from General Kilpatrick:

YORKTOWN, *March* 4, 1864.

GENERAL: Colonel Dahlgren was directed to make a diversion with 500 men on the James River. He attacked at 4 p. m. Tuesday evening; drove the enemy in on Richmond. The main attack having failed, Colonel Dahlgren attempted to rejoin

me near the Meadow Bridge. He and Colonel [Major] Cooke were with the advance guard, some 50 men; became separated from his main force, since which nothing has been heard from him. His main force reached me with slight loss. I have hopes that he may yet come in.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.*

In addition, a rebel deserter informed one of my aides that a one-legged colonel and about 100 men were taken prisoners. I shall hear by flag of truce on Sunday night. Will telegraph again.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

The PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

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HEADQUARTERS, *March* 4, 1864.
(Received 2.15 a. m., 5th.)

Upon being notified of the intended movement of General Kilpatrick, I ordered Colonel West to take 2,000 infantry, 1,000 cavalry, and a battery of artillery, and to march to New Kent Court-House, and remain there to render such aid as might be necessary to General Kilpatrick. Colonel West reports to me his return, as follows:

We captured going and coming a few guerrillas. Colonel Spear met General Davies at Tunstall's Station, and I met General Kilpatrick about 4 miles beyond New Kent Court-House. My outpost reported heavy musketry firing in the direction of the York River Railroad, and I was on my way out with cavalry, infantry, and artillery to render such assistance as I could when we met the two columns coming in. My instructions did not authorize me to go beyond New Kent Court-House, but as they were not very definite I thought the circumstances justified me in exceeding them to the extent I did. Duncan's colored brigade performed a march of 42 miles in twenty-two hours, the first part of which was made during a heavy rain-storm. The roads were thus rendered very bad for foot-men. No loss is reported save the slight wounding of 1 colored soldier by a bushwhacker. The cavalry did well. Colonel Spear reports the destruction by him of a large saw-mill, containing new engine and about 20,000 feet of lumber; also a large baggage-car, some trestle-work, and a portion of the railroad track. This at Tunstall's Station, on the York River Railroad, on the 2d instant.

ROBT. M. WEST,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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No. 7.

*Report of Col. Samuel P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding Cavalry Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Near Williamsburg, Va., March* 4, 1864.

SIR: In accordance to instructions received from the colonel commanding, I formed my brigade, leaving one squadron at Gloucester Point and one squadron at Lebanon Church and vicinity, also the pickets and a relief, in all about 800 effective men, in front of Fort Magruder, at 11 o'clock p. m. on the 1st instant, and proceeded in

the place in column assigned me to New Kent Court-House, at which point I arrived at 7.30 a. m. on the morning of the 2d instant. Resting till 11 o'clock a. m., I proceeded with 300 men to Tunstall's Station, on the Richmond and West Point Railroad. Here I found the enemy's pickets had been drawn in the previous night. I destroyed the railroad track, some cars, the switches, culverts, depot storehouses, a large and valuable saw-mill, &c., all of which were of great value and use to the enemy.

Small detachments were also sent out in different directions and continued until the advance of General Kilpatrick's command was found, when all returned to New Kent, covering his rear, when found, which was at a point near the White House, on the morning of the 3d instant. My command encamped at New Kent on the nights of the 2d and 3d, and took up the march for Williamsburg on the morning of the 4th, arriving at Fort Magruder and reporting to the commanding officer at 4 p. m.

At White House and vicinity 12 prisoners were captured and brought in, and on my return the notorious Robert Corton, a well-known guerrilla, was pursued near Six-Mile Ordinary, and killed in attempting to make his escape. Inclosed I forward papers* found upon his person, which are of the most treasonable character.

My command will be ready in a day or two for any duty or emergency.

I am, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

SAM. P. SPEAR,
*Col. Eleventh Pennsylvania Vol. Cavalry, Comdg. Brigade*

Col. ROBERT M. WEST,
*Commanding Fort Magruder.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Yorktown, Va., March 5*, 1864.

Most respectfully forwarded.

I gladly bear testimony to Colonel Spear's cheerful and hearty cooperation throughout the recent expedition. He omits the mention in his report of the destruction of a new steam engine in the saw-mill which he destroyed. This alone was a loss to the enemy which he cannot easily replace.

ROBT. M. WEST,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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No. 8.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.*

HEADQUARTERS, *March* 6, 1864.

GENERAL: In advance of the report that I shall make I write to suggest some considerations which have occurred to me. In the first place, my observations convinced me that the enemy could have taken Richmond, and in all probability would have done so but for

* Not found.

the fact that Colonel Johnson intercepted a dispatch from Dahlgren to Kilpatrick, asking what hour the latter had fixed for an attack on the city, so that both attacks might be simultaneous. Kilpatrick had said on his retreat that with Butler's force he could and would take the city. I regard the force to defend Richmond inadequate as at present located, and if a determined and concentrated attack is made, grave apprehensions of the result are to be entertained. But if Kilpatrick will not risk another attack there are but two modes of egress from his present position, not, of course, including that by water. He may under cover of a feint from the peninsula endeavor to pass by Hanover Court-House across Littlepage's Ferry, and thence to the Rappahannock, or he may cross into Gloucester, go to Urbanna, cross the river there, and escape by the Northern Neck. A judicious disposition of a proper force of infantry can defeat either attempt to escape. The Matadequin and the Totopotomoy Creeks with very little work would make most excellent defensive lines, where an enemy can be checked by a small force, and both of these creeks head near the railroad. A force distributed along the line of road from Richmond to Fredericksburg would not only be in position to cut off any advance from the Peninsula, but also to defend the city itself. If a force of infantry was posted at Fredericksburg it could put such works across the Northern Neck that Kilpatrick could not get by without very great assistance from Meade. Perhaps, too, a battery on the Lower Rappahannock might be of great service in preventing transports from approaching Urbanna. I advise that scouts should be sent from my command to obtain reliable information of the movement of the enemy at Gloucester and Yorktown.

The boats on the Pamunkey and the Mattapony should be removed. While at Tunstall's Station I made a reconnaissance of the positions there and up to Hanover Court-House. The Matadequin Creek can be forded only at two places with artillery—one the lower ford, near Hampstead, Mrs. Webb's place, where the ground is very defensible, and the other at Rowland's Mill, the dam of which is now broken. If this dam is repaired a large inundation would be formed, preventing any crossing for some distance up. There is an intermediate ford which can be used only by horsemen, and which I am told can be easily blockaded.

I have not availed myself of my leave of absence, as the weather has been so favorable for the movement of troops, and if my presence here is longer necessary I will cheerfully forego my visit home.

I beg you will let me know what disposition, if any, you have made for the proposed relief of Butler's brigade, and what orders have been given to General Rosser.

I forward General Young's report as to the recent crossing of the enemy at Ely's Ford. From this it appears that no blame can be attached to the officer commanding the pickets, but the line of pickets and couriers seems to have been defective. I shall give such instructions as will guard against the recurrence of a similar unfortunate affair.

I make the suggestions contained in this letter merely to bring them to your attention, and if you think them of any value you can communicate them to the general commanding, or can make whatever use of them you think best.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

Major-General STUART, *Commanding Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS, *Milford, March* 8, 1864.

MAJOR: At 11 a. m. on the 29th ultimo I received a dispatch from one of my scouts conveying information which I embodied in the following dispatch to Major-General Stuart, dated Milford, 11.30 a. m.:

Sergeant Shadbourne reports enemy moving. Gregg moved to front Thursday. Tuesday whole army paid off and prepared to move. Last night Kilpatrick received marching orders; three days' rations. Passed Sheppard's, near Madden's. Supposed to be coming to Ely's Ford. Part of Second Corps on same road. Whole army seems in motion. Sutlers and women ordered to rear. Acknowledge receipt of this.

At 12.30 I sent the following message to General Stuart:

Citizens report to General Young a Yankee cavalry brigade at Mount Pleasant, moving toward Central road. No report from pickets.

Not hearing from General Stuart, at 10.30 p. m. I sent this message to him:

Enemy were at Beaver Dam at 7 o'clock. North Carolina brigade has moved down with artillery. Have ordered Maryland cavalry to join me. Young at Spotsylvania Court-House. Have received nothing from you.

These dispatches gave all the information I had received of the movements of the enemy. As soon as I could learn what direction the enemy had taken I sent all the mounted men from the North Carolina brigade who were present—253 from the First North Carolina and 53 from the Second—with Hart's battery, to Mount Carmel Church.

On the morning of the 1st I joined the command and took it to Hanover Court-House. Not hearing of the enemy here, I moved to Hughes' Cross-Roads, deeming that an important point, and one at which he would be likely to cross. When the column arrived here the camp-fires of the enemy could be seen in the direction of Atlee's Station, as well as to my right, on the telegraph or the Brook road. I determined to strike at the party near Atlee's, and with that view moved down to the station, where we met the pickets of the enemy. I would not allow their fire to be returned, but quietly dismounted 100 men, and supporting them with the cavalry, ordered Colonel Cheek to move steadily on the camp of the enemy, while two guns were opened on them at very short range. The attack was made with great gallantry, the men proving by their conduct that they were fully equal to the most difficult duty of soldiers—a night attack—while officers and men behaved in a manner that not only met but surpassed my highest expectations.

The enemy, a brigade strong here, with two other brigades immediately in their rear, made a stout resistance for a short time, but the advance of my men was never checked and they were soon in possession of the entire camp, in which horses, arms, rations, and clothing were scattered about in confusion. Kilpatrick immediately moved his division off at a gallop, leaving one wagon with horses hitched to it and one caisson full of ammunition. These were taken possession of by Col. Bradley Johnson, who came up to that point in the morning from Meadow Bridge and found them abandoned. He also picked up a good many prisoners whose horses had been captured in the night attack and who were cut off from their command. Owing to the extreme darkness of the night (for the attack was made in a snow-storm) I could not push on till daylight, when I found the enemy had rapidly retreated down the Peninsula. We

followed to the vicinity of Old Church, when I was forced to discontinue the pursuit on account of the condition of my horses. Under orders from the Secretary of War I took my cavalry, together with some other commands around Richmond, and subsequently moved to Tunstall's Station, in the hope of being able to strike a blow at the enemy, but he retreated to Williamsburg under cover of strong re-enforcements which had been sent to him. My command was then brought back to its old camp, having been in the saddle from Monday night to Sunday evening.

As the prisoners captured were sent off in different detachments I cannot give their exact number, though I think it was about 100. Colonel Cheek reports 133 horses and 55 guns, besides side-arms, taken. When it is taken into consideration that the cavalry with which I left camp only numbered 306 men, and that this number was reduced by pickets, scouts, and broken-down horses considerably, I hope the commanding general will not regard the services performed by them as inadequate. They drove a picked division of the enemy from his camp, which they occupied from 1 o'clock at night till daylight. They forced this part of the enemy to take a road which he did not intend to follow, while the other force under Dahlgren was prevented from forming a junction with Kilpatrick by my troops getting between them, which brought about the precipitate retreat of Dahlgren, resulting in his death and the destruction of his command, and they bore all the hardships of a week's march with perfect cheerfulness.

I beg to express my entire satisfaction at the conduct of both officers and men. Colonel Cheek, who was in command of the detachment, displayed ability, gallantry, and zeal. Major Andrews, of the Second North Carolina, also bore himself well and gave assistance.

I cannot close my report without expressing my appreciation of the conduct of Col. Bradley T. Johnson and his gallant command. With a mere handful of men he met the enemy at Beaver Dam, and he never lost sight of them until they had passed Tunstall's Station, hanging on their rear, striking them constantly, and displaying throughout the very highest qualities of a soldier. He is eminently fitted for the cavalry service, and I trust it will not be deemed an interference on my part to urge as emphatically as I can his promotion.

My loss was 3 wounded and 2 missing.

Captain Lowndes, Lieutenant Hampton, and Dr. Taylor, of my staff, accompanied me and rendered me great assistance.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

Major MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 9.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Pierce M. B. Young, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.*

HDQRS. BUTLER'S BRIGADE, *March* 2, 1864.

MAJOR: The enemy's cavalry crossed the river at Ely's Ford about 11.30 o'clock at night of the 29th [ultimo]. As well as can be ascer-

tained a small body was piloted over the river by a citizen at some point where there was no ford. The river is fordable at any point at this time above United States Ford, where one can get up and down the banks. This body came in the rear of the reserve part of that portion of the line, killing and capturing every officer and man at the post. Ely's Ford was the headquarters of the whole line from United States Ford up to Germanna. Captain Young, Cobb's Legion Cavalry, was in command. He had 1 officer and about 10 men with him. The front and rear of this post was attacked about the same time. Not one escaped to report the facts. The enemy crossed his whole column at this ford, not disturbing another picket on the whole line. The enemy pushed his advanced column, which consisted of about 600 or 800 men, on through Spotsylvania Court-House at a trot, not pausing at this place, but pushing rapidly on to Mount Pleasant, which they reached about daybreak. They passed Spotsylvania Court-House about 3 a. m. They advanced without stopping toward Frederick's Hall. The main column, consisting of Kilpatrick's division, commanded by him in person, passed Spotsylvania Court-House about daylight. The lowest estimate that can be put upon his numbers is about 2,500 cavalry and six pieces of artillery. This column went directly to Beaver Dam.

The first intimation that I had of the move was about 11 a. m. on the 1st by a citizen who had been run from his home by the second column, the first column having passed in the night without waking any one. He would not be positive that they were Yankees, and not hearing a word from my picket-lines, I thought it must be a false alarm. About the same time I received a note from a scout saying that the enemy had cooked rations and were about to move. I did not and could not believe the citizen's report, but nevertheless, to be safe, I telegraphed at once to Generals Stuart and Hampton and the provost-marshal at Hanover Junction the information I had received and how I came by it. I at once ordered my brigade under arms and cooked rations for a march. About 12 m. another citizen confirmed the report, saying that he had seen them, and was assured that their intention was to get in my rear and attack me. I immediately telegraphed to General Hampton and confirmed the report and asked for orders. He ordered me to be ready to march on short notice. This was about 1 p. m. I had still heard nothing from my pickets. I was in bad plight to move. My effective mounted force was 320, and more than half of this number had already been sent off on scouts in different directions. Having no intimations as yet of the enemy's intentions, I prepared to defend my camp. About 2 p. m. a scout reported that the enemy had gone rapidly toward Central Railroad, which he must have reached before that time. At this time I learned that the telegraph was cut between Beaver Dam and Louisa Court-House. At 11 a. m. I reported to General Hampton and again asked for orders. He told me if I did not fear an attack on my camp that I could pursue the enemy, covering Milford and Hanover Junction. This was at 4 p. m. I reported back that I would march at 5.30 p. m., but that I could not reach the enemy unless he attempted to return, as he was already 40 miles ahead of me. He then ordered me to remain in camp and await orders.

Before daylight next morning he ordered me to leave dismounted men in camp and take the rest to Spotsylvania Court-House to cover my camp. I marched at daylight, leaving Colonel Twiggs in com-

mand of camp. Reached the Court-House at 9.30 a. m. Soon after I received orders from General Hampton saying he would go to Junction, and I should return to camp if the enemy did not appear by noon. I moved several miles down the road on which the enemy was expected to return, and at 4 p. m. took up the line of march for camp.

In conclusion, I can only say that I cannot attach blame to my picket officer, who is now dead or in the hands of the enemy. He was without a doubt, in my opinion, the best picket officer in my brigade, and if I had been called upon for the most reliable officer in my command for any duty I should have selected this captain. To the treachery of some citizen, whose name I cannot learn, we are indebted for this move.

I have been thus prompt in forwarding this report, fearing blame might be attached to myself or my command.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. B. YOUNG,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN.

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 3, 1864.

Captain Cooke will show this to the commanding general in order that he may know what has transpired on General Young's line. General Stuart has not had opportunity to make his remarks on it.

By order:

H. B. McCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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## No. 10.

*Report of Col. William H. Cheek, First North Carolina Cavalry, commanding brigade.*

*Report of prisoners and property captured by North Carolina Cavalry Brigade (Hart's Battery included) on the recent scout near Richmond, March 1, 1864.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Prisoners | 87 |
| Horses | 133 |
| Guns | 55 |
| Pistols | 35 |
| Sabers | 46 |
| Saddles | 45 |
| Bridles | 43 |
| Halters | 39 |

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. CHEEK,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

MAJOR. The above statement contains the list of captured property as appeared by an inventory taken several days after the engagement. I would call your attention to the fact of the number of saddles, bridles, and halters being much less than the number of horses. When we know that the horses when captured were tied up and unsaddled, I can account for the difference only by the system of exchanges that we know is always practiced on such occa-

sions. If the number of saddles, bridles, and halters should be made to correspond with the number of horses, I have no doubt the report would much nearer approximate the truth.

Very respectfully,

W. H. CHEEK,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

Maj. THEODORE G. BARKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 11.

*Reports of Capt. Edward C. Fox, Fifth Virginia Cavalry, Lomax's brigade, Fitzhugh Lee's division.*

RICHMOND, *March* 9, 1864.

GENERAL: According to instructions I have the honor to report the facts concerning the little fight we had with the raiding party of the enemy around Richmond on the 5th day of March.

I was informed by Lieutenant Pollard, of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, that the enemy were advancing through King William County. I immediately ordered my men to report for duty, and succeeded in assembling 28 at King and Queen Court-House. Lieutenant Pollard came up in their rear, and engaged their rear guard near Bruington Church, skirmishing for several miles. They halted and fed near Mantapike. The portions of the different commands were then collected together and put in ambush to await the advance of the enemy. After an hour or two's rest they moved on slowly. Our fire was reserved until the head of their column rested within a few yards, when they opened fire, which was instantly returned. Colonel Dahlgren fell dead, pierced with five balls.

We captured 92 prisoners, 38 negroes, a number of horses, arms, &c.

Our force numbered about 150 men—Lieutenant Pollard, 20 men; Captain McGruder, of the Forty-second Virginia Battalion, 70; Captain Bagby, home guards, 25; Captain Todd, home guards, 9; King and Queen Cavalry, 28.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. C. FOX,
*Captain Company E, Fifth Virginia Cavalry.*

Maj. Gen. FITZHUGH LEE.

[First indorsement.*]

General STUART:

Pollard has not yet answered your inquiry as to the exact time when Captain Fox arrived and assumed command. You have forwarded Fox's letter in answer to the same question.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 10, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Lieutenant Pollard's report of this matter has already been sent on, but as it appears that Captain Fox was in command of various detachments of our forces [*sic*] resulting in the death of Dahlgren and capture of his troops, I forward this report also.

FITZ. LEE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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* In pencil and without signature.

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 13, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

From Lieutenant Pollard's report it is apparent that the place of ambush and the dispositions which resulted so successfully in the capture of Dahlgren's party were made by him prior to Captain Fox's arrival.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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ASHLAND, *April* 1, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the reception of your communication on yesterday, dated March 19.

I received notice through one of the home guard, who had been notified by one of Lieutenant Pollard's company, of the advance of the enemy. Immediately sent orders to my lieutenants to assemble my company at King and Queen Court-House, with orders to come up to Dunkirk. I started for Dunkirk immediately. When within one-half mile of the place learned that the Yankees had swam the river at Aylett's, 4 miles below, when I returned and went to the Court-House, having sent a dispatch to Captain Bagby, of the home guards, to keep me advised of the movements of the enemy. On my arrival at the Court-House found about 70 men present from different commands. I went into ambush just below the Court-House, having received information of the advance. Received information through two members of my company that the enemy had gone into camp, when I moved up the road. On my arrival at Mantapike hill found some 60 or 70 men in ambush. It was about 9 o'clock at night. Captain McGruder, of the Forty-second Virginia Battalion, was present, and Captain Bagby, home guard. I immediately took command of the entire force. I determined, after finding out my strength, to charge the camp. Sent up to Stevensville after Lieutenant Pollard (some 2 or 3 miles above), but before his arrival received information that the Yankees were again advancing. The whole force was put in ambush. It was about 12 o'clock when the action took place. The enemy then went into Mantapike field, which has a canal running through it that cannot be crossed except at one place, and the river on one side. Knowing that it was impossible for them to make their escape, except by place spoken of in canal above, I took the command below it, barricaded the road, and waited until day, when I sent in a flag of truce by Lieutenant Nunn, demanding an unconditional surrender. Before his return I saw from the confused condition they were in that they had determined not to fight. When I moved in found no commissioned officer present. They were afterward captured by Captain Bagby. I cannot say by whom the place of ambush was chosen.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. C. FOX,
*Captain Company E, Fifth Virginia Cavalry.*

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 4, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

This additional report was called for by me because Captain Fox's former report seemed to throw some doubt as to whom the credit of the ambuscade was due. His concluding remarks, however, I think, show that this credit was due, as at first supposed, to Lieutenant Pollard, who, according to his report, chose the ground, stationed the men, and then sent to King and Queen Court-House for Captain Fox.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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No. 12.

*Reports of Col. Richard L. T. Beale, Ninth Virginia Cavalry, Chambliss' brigade, including operations January 21 to March 6.*

MARCH 9, 1864.

GENERAL: In obedience to your order of the 7th instant I have the honor to submit the following report of the disposition and movements of my command since January 21:

We marched from Albemarle to this point, near Centre Cross, in four days. Under instructions to render Majors Dade and Waite all the necessary assistance in collecting bacon in the Northern Neck, Companies C, D, K, and I were placed subject to their orders. These companies were recalled before completing collections in Lancaster and Northumberland Counties, upon receipt of an order from Major-General Stuart to relieve General Young, at Hamilton's Crossing. That order received on 6th day of March.

Company H and a detachment of 32 men, under Lieutenant Ewell, picketed from West Point to Urbanna, in Middlesex, Lieutenant Ewell being relieved by Lieutenant Neblett so soon as Captain Bolling joined me and sent to Lancaster County. One-half of Company A was charged with picketing on Potomac and across to Fredericksburg. Companies B, E, F, half of A, and G were held in camp and picketed the Rappahannock from Tappahannock down, under orders from General Hampton. With 130 men, under a pressing order from Brigadier-General Young, we made in January a forced march (60 miles in twenty-six hours) to Hamilton's Crossing.

In February we made a similar march to Hanover Court-House, under orders from Major-General Hampton.

In March we were ordered to Hanover Junction to find orders. This was accomplished with 175 men between 10 o'clock on Tuesday and 12 o'clock on Wednesday. No orders were left for me. I sought the enemy on the Ash Cake road as far as Hanover Court-House and Old Church, marching day and night, and reaching Old Church at daybreak on Thursday morning. Here I was halted and a plan of attack arranged by Colonel Johnson at Tunstall's Station. The enemy had marched an hour before we reached that point. Being informed General Hampton had been recalled to Richmond, I returned to Old Church and wrote him that unless otherwise ordered

I should return to camp on Friday. I came slowly back, reaching camp Saturday night.

I received at Old Church a dispatch from Lieutenant Pollard, with a note-book and sundry papers taken from the body of Colonel Dahlgren. I forwarded the papers and reported the captures to you at Richmond. The note-book I still have.

On the evening of the 6th, Lieutenant Neblett brought in 19 prisoners (15 white, 4 colored) taken on the tug-boat Titan, in the employ of the United States Government. One was shot in attempting to seize the arms of the guard before reaching camp. He reported the capture as made by a volunteer party of disbanded cavalry in the waters of Accomac County. The tug was brought to Piankatank River, and Lieutenant Rowleth, fearing a rescue from Gloucester Point, sent to Neblett for help. He watched the enemy retreating before him, and after removing a large lot of sugar, coffee, whisky, &c., the tug was burned.* My last order was to relieve General Young. A dispatch from General Stuart, received upon the eve of marching, implicitly revoked that. I replied that I should wait for orders, and sent Captain Bolling's company to co-operate with Lieutenant Pollard in watching for Kilpatrick, holding the rest of my command in readiness to fight him, should he come.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. T. BEALE,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. FITZHUGH LEE.

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No. 13.

*Reports of Lieut. James Pollard, Ninth Virginia Cavalry.*

MARCH 7, 1864.

GENERAL: Early on the morning of the 2d I received information from my scouts that the portion of the column which attacked Richmond on 1st March were attempting to escape through King William and King and Queen Counties to Gloucester Point. I immediately sent a dispatch to Captain McGruder, Forty-second Battalion, to join me, and started in pursuit with the remainder of my company, about 25 men, having sent the rest to scout [and] picket the numerous roads and ferries. I overtook the enemy about 4 p. m. and attacked his rear, skirmishing with him for several miles. I then turned off on a by-road to head him, sending a few men to harass his rear. Was re-enforced by Captain McGruder with about 30 men and a number of the home guard, and placed them in line of battle at a point that the enemy was obliged to pass. I then sent for Captain Fox, Fifth Virginia Cavalry, and he joined me with as many of his company as he had been able to collect (about 15 men) just in time to meet the enemy, who advanced upon our position about 11.30 p. m. The colonel commanding (Dahlgren) was killed at the first fire and several wounded. They then retreated in confusion, leaving the roads and taking to the fields. As soon as it was light we discovered them scattered about in a field dismounted, when we advanced and found that the whole force had surrendered to a Confederate officer who was a prisoner with them, except the commissioned officers and a few men who had dismounted and fled to the woods. The

* See also reports of Duvall and Fitzhugh, pp. 231 and 232.

officers and most of the men have since been captured. The whole number captured will amount to about 175—40 negroes and 135 soldiers.

I am indebted to Captains McGruder and Fox and the home guard for their cordial co-operation, as well as the coolness and bravery of their men in meeting the enemy.

I have the honor to be, general, your most obedient servant,

JAMES POLLARD,
*First Lieut., Comdg. Co. H, 9th Va. Cav. (on detached service).*

Maj. Gen. FITZHUGH LEE.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 9, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

Lieutenant Pollard deserves great credit for his gallantry, and his men and officers who so zealously co-operated with him should share the praise due them. Lieutenant Pollard is first lieutenant of Company H, Ninth Virginia Cavalry, Chambliss' brigade, Lee's division, Cavalry Corps.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *March* 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for information of the Department, heartily concurring in the commendation of General Stuart.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Third indorsement.]

MARCH 21, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

A gallant exploit, and one which exhibits what a few resolute men may do to punish the enemy on their marauding raids.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

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APRIL 9, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report, in reply to your order of March 19, received to-day, that early on the morning of — I got information from my scouts that the enemy were crossing into King William, moving toward King and Queen. I immediately started with my company to meet him at Dunkirk, the only ferry at which a boat had been left on the river; but he secured a wood-boat at Aylett's, several miles lower down the river, and crossed his men, swimming his horses. I pursued and attacked his rear, skirmishing with him for several miles, when I turned off to get ahead of him at a point which I knew he must pass. On my way to this place I met Captain McGruder, Forty-second Battalion Virginia Cavalry (to whom I had sent in the morning to join me), and some home

guards, who placed their men at my command, and I put them in the position which I had chosen about dark. Later in the evening I heard that Captain Fox, Fifth Virginia Cavalry, with some of his men, was at King and Queen Court-House and sent for him to join me, which he did, arriving on the ground about 10 or 11 o'clock, and a few minutes before the enemy advanced and Colonel Dahlgren was killed. Captain Fox then took command and we remained in position until daylight, when he ordered me to take my company and find out the position of the enemy, and they surrendered without showing fight.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

JAMES POLLARD,

*First Lieut., Comdg. Company H, Ninth Virginia Cavalry*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 13, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

To Lieutenant Pollard's skillful dispositions and to his activity it is mainly owing that Dahlgren was killed and his party captured.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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No. 14.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Armistead L. Long, C. S. Army, commanding artillery, Second Corps.*

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, SECOND CORPS,
*March* 1, 1864.

GENERAL: Yesterday about 12 m. the enemy were reported advancing in considerable force upon my position. I immediately placed my artillery in position to resist cavalry. With the assistance of 120 sharpshooters I was in hopes of being able to repel any attack that might be made. The enemy, about 1,000 or 1,500 strong, advanced to within half a mile of my advanced camp, but finding a force in front of them, changed their direction to the left, taking farm roads toward Bumpass Station. They struck the railroad about 3 miles below me, above Bumpass. They hastily tore up a few rails and passed on in the direction of Cartersville. Their whole movement about me was masked by the thick timber by which we are surrounded, and although they were very close to me, I could not find an opportunity of doing them any damage.

Later in the day I received reports that another and larger force was advancing (which I think, from the report of a prisoner taken by my scout, may have been Kilpatrick moving toward Hanover Junction), and as the first force was moving toward my rear, I was induced to ask for a re-enforcement of one or two regiments of infantry, which force reached me last night. I sent out parties to follow and watch the movements of the enemy. They were pursued as far as the Red House on the mountain road to Richmond. At dark they were moving rapidly in that direction.

I regret to inform you that all the members of the court-martial of this command, who were in session, were captured. A vacant

house some distance from camp had been selected for the meeting of the court, and the movement of the enemy was so sudden there was not time to notify the court of their approach. The following officers were captured: Lieutenant-Colonel Jones, Captains Page, Watson, and Dement, Lieutenants Blair and Deas; probably Lieutenants Lambie and Walthall. Several enlisted men were also captured, but were released after being carried some distance.

I notified General Elzey and the commanding officer at Hanover Junction yesterday of the enemy's movements, and I hope they may be able to intercept them. I greatly felt the want of a few hundred infantry. With these I am sure I could have inflicted a severe chastisement upon them. The nature of the country would have greatly assisted me. My sharpshooters were too few, and I had too much at stake to hazard any movement against them.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

General R. H. CHILTON,
*Asst. Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Army of Northern Virginia.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
*March* 4, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

This report should have been addressed, it is considered, to the general-in-chief of artillery, he being at hand and in general charge; but although there seems something of official disrespect in violating usage and regulations, as well as Orders, No. 69, from general headquarters, of last series, as is done in this direct communication to general headquarters, it is deemed best for the service, as well as most suitable for myself, to forward it without delay, only directing attention to the irregularity.

W. N. PENDLETON,
*Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, SECOND CORPS,
*March* 2, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the pleasure to announce the escape of Lieutenant-Colonel Jones and Captain Watson. They effected their escape night before last between the hours of 9 and 11 o'clock. The enemy were then across South Anna River, having crossed at Turkey Creek Ford. Colonel Jones estimated the column at 1,500. Colonel Dahlgren, commanding, stated he had 3,000. Besides this column another one crossed the railroad at Beaver Dam (where everything was destroyed), numbering between 2,000 and 3,000 men, and believed to be under Kilpatrick. It had four pieces of artillery. The column passing here had no artillery. Both columns said their destination was Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Lieut. G. W. PETERKIN,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Arty. Corps, Army of N. Va.*

No. 15.

*Report of Col. Walter H. Stevens, C. S. Army, commanding Richmond Defenses.*

HEADQUARTERS RICHMOND DEFENSES,
*March* 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of this command during the recent raid of the enemy against this city:

On Monday night, February 29, in obedience to instructions from your office, I ordered Lieut. Col. C. E. Lightfoot, commanding the light artillery, to repair to Camp Lee by daylight with Captain Hankins' and Captain Rives' batteries, and to send one section of Thornton's battery to the vicinity of the new bridge, on the Nine-Mile road, and at the same time ordered the forces of Lieut. Col. James Howard, commanding Second Division (inner line), and of Lieut. Col. J. W. Atkinson, commanding First Division (inner line), to be at the intersection of the Brook turnpike and intermediate line by daylight Tuesday morning, Lieutenant-Colonel Howard being ordered at the same time to double his guards posted at the intersection of the Mechanicsville, the Meadow Bridge, the Brook, and Deep Run roads and the intermediate line.

On Tuesday morning I proceeded to the intersection of the Brook turnpike and intermediate line, and at 10.30 a. m. ordered Captain Rives to proceed to the same place, there being no light artillery at that point, and in obedience to verbal instructions from the major-general commanding returned to your headquarters. While there I received a dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Howard, stating that the enemy had appeared in his front and driven in his pickets. I immediately returned to the intersection of the Brook turnpike and intermediate line, and upon my arrival there found out that upon the appearance of the enemy Lieut. Col. James Howard had ordered Captain Rives to push forward one section of his artillery and engage. This command Captain Rives executed, being supported by Company D, Tenth Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, commanded by Capt. C. S. Harrison. After advancing some 200 yards the enemy's skirmishers, closing upon him, fired so rapidly and accurately that he was obliged to retire to the shelter of the fortifications, with the loss of 2 men wounded and 8 horses wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Lightfoot had also with commendable promptitude ordered Hankins' battery to the intersection of the intermediate line and the Mordecai's Mill road, at the same time sending him an infantry support from Lieutenant-Colonel Howard's command.

Soon after my arrival the enemy opened upon my position a rapid and tolerably accurate fire from five pieces of artillery, and his skirmishers advanced under cover of ditches and the neighboring houses to within 200 yards of our works and annoyed our artillerists so much that at the suggestion of Lieutenant-Colonel Howard I ordered him and Lieutenant-Colonel Atkinson to detach a portion of their commands and drive them from their shelter. This was handsomely performed on the right by a volunteer force from Lieutenant-Colonel Howard's command, under First Lieut. William M. Chaplain, Company B, Twentieth Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, who charged the enemy who were in the house of Mr. J. A. Parker, from

which they were immediately driven, and on the left by Company D, Tenth Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Capt. C. S. Harrison commanding. Lieutenant Chaplain's party lost 5 men in the charge, as per list* of casualties inclosed.

A demonstration was made by the enemy against Captain Hankins' position on the Mill road, but it was repulsed, and in the artillery duel that ensued Captain Hankins several times drove the gunners of the enemy from their guns.

Captain Rives' fire caused a large body of the enemy, massed between the Brook turnpike and the Mill road, to seek shelter in the thick wood to the right of the Brook turnpike. The firing lasted about two hours, after which the enemy retreated toward the Meadow Bridge road.

Later in the day a small body of the enemy's cavalry made its appearance near the residence of Mr. J. P. Ballard, about three-quarters of a mile in front of one of my siege batteries, on the intermediate line and Deep Run road, served by a detachment of 20 men of the Twentieth Virginia Battalion, commanded by Second Lieut. B. F. Halstead, of Company B, Twentieth Virginia Battalion. After exchanging ten rounds the enemy withdrew, with no casualties on our side.

In closing this report I have the honor to express my gratification at the behavior both of the officers and men of this command. The artillery was handled exceedingly well, and the infantry responded with alacrity to every call made upon them.

I had about 500 men engaged between the Brook pike and Mill road, and six pieces of artillery. The enemy supposed to be between 3,000 and 3,500 men, with five pieces of artillery.

Lieutenant Hudgin with four pieces of artillery was ordered to report to General Barton, on the Mechanicsville road, and one section from Hankins' and one from Rives' batteries were sent to report to General Lee before the fire of the enemy on my front had ceased. They having left my command for the time I have not traced their operations, though I have been informed that they were not elsewhere engaged.

The loss of the enemy is not known, they being able under the cover of a dense fog to carry away their killed and wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. STEVENS,
*Commanding Richmond Defenses.*

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 16.

*Report of Capt. L. B. Anderson, North Anna Home Guards.*

HEWLETT'S STATION, *March* 4, 1864.

DEAR SIR: Returning last Monday from visiting a patient several miles below me, I heard just at night that the vandals were at Beaver Dam Depot. I pushed on home, collecting my men as I went, and

* Nominal list (omitted) reports 1 man killed and 1 officer and 6 men wounded.

at 9 o'clock I moved off with 17 men, 3 of them belonging to the Hanover Troop, and a few belonging to a Maryland company. Our movements (in brief) are as follows:

*February* 29.—Ascertaining at 10 o'clock at night that the enemy had moved from Beaver Dam, in what direction the pickets, who were stationed 4½ miles below, could not tell, we moved through woods, plantations, &c., avoiding all roads, though the night was intensely dark and rainy, until we saw the camp-fires of the foes. Leaving the horses and the men, three of us marched on foot through a dense forest and morass and gained a position from which we had a view of the whole line of encampment. We sent a courier to Colonel Johnson, at the Junction, informing him that the enemy were on the Trinity Church road. The signals for preparation and marching having been thrown up, we discovered the whole line in motion. Returning to our horses we rapidly moved across three farms and gained a position on the Fork Church road, leading directly toward South Anna railroad bridge. Two men were placed immediately on the road and the remainder drawn up a few paces in their rear. In five minutes the head of the column reached our position (between 12.30 and 1.30 o'clock). The men were anxious to fire into the enemy, but were prohibited on the ground that they were marching into a trap from which it was scarcely possible for any to escape. The utmost caution was observed in retiring from our position, in order that the enemy might not know that their movements were observed. We pushed on to Mr. Redd's, and sent 3 couriers with a dispatch to Colonel Johnson (and General Elzey, at Richmond, by telegraph from Junction), at the Junction, informing him that the enemy were moving down on Fork Church road, and suggesting that he mass his troops upon that road immediately, and that we would guard the fords and bridges on Colonel J[ohnson]'s right flank and inform him of any demonstrations in that direction. We then went to the New Market bridge and tore up the planking, and remained until we were assured that the rear of the enemy had passed Fork Church. which was about daybreak.

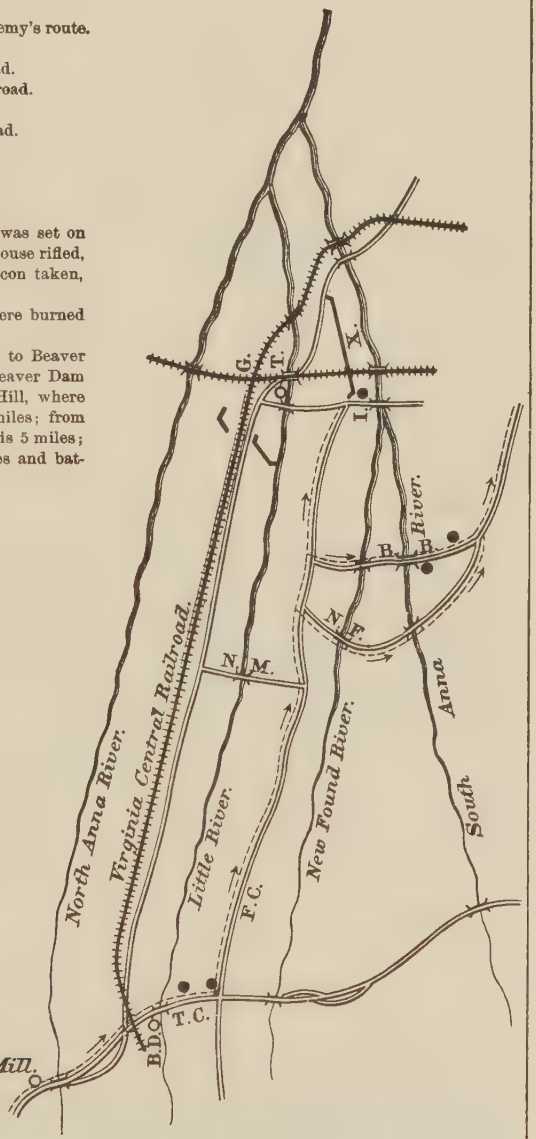
*March* 1.—Surprised at not hearing the attack, which we confidently expected would be made upon the enemy at about 4 o'clock this morning, we moved on to the Junction, and about 5.30 or 6 o'clock heard the report of cannon and small-arms. We reached the position where the enemy were posted after they had retreated, and found to our utter astonishment that they had passed quietly down to and encamped within 200 yards of our batteries near South River bridge, and remained there probably one or more hours without the men at the batteries knowing of their proximity or they being aware of the position of the batteries; and we presumed that the attack made by Colonel Johnson with a small force just before it was light enough to ascertain the position of our batteries saved them and all the bridges in the vicinity. Why the troops were not put in position two hours before (as the dispatch was received at telegraph office, so says the operator, at 2.30 o'clock) we know not; but it was our opinion that, caught between the Little and South Rivers with only two bridges accessible, both of which could have been torn up early in the night (a courier, Mr. Samuel Anderson, of Hanover Troop, who offered to act as guide, was sent down about 10 o'clock, giving information of their probable move to Blunt's Bridge) or easily guarded, 1,000 infantry properly posted in the ample time afforded could have almost totally

●—Indicates enemy's encampments at batteries, (I.)
---- —Indicates the enemy's route.
X—Our batteries.
F C—Fork Church road.
T C—Trinity Church road.
B D—Beaver Dam.
N M—New Market road.
G—Junction.
T—Taylor's Mills.
N F—Negrofoot road.
B B—Blunt's bridge.

Mrs. Anderson's mill was set on fire by the enemy; her house rifled, and nearly all of her bacon taken, and every horse she had.

Private houses, &c., were burned near Beaver Dam.

From Anderson's Mill to Beaver Dam is 2 miles; from Beaver Dam to Trinity and Pigeon Hill, where they encamped, is 3½ miles; from there to Trinity Church is 5 miles; from there to the bridges and batteries 3½ miles.




A ROUGH MAP OF THE ENEMY'S MARCH FROM BEAVER DAM TO OUR BATTERIES AND BACK TO BLUNT'S BRIDGE AND NEGROFOOT ROADS.

annihilated Kilpatrick's command. We ascertained from various sources that he had only eight small regiments, two brigades, twelve small guns, and between 2,000 and 2,500 men. It was a glorious opportunity most unfortunately neglected. We followed the enemy to Independence Meeting-House, and having been in our saddles all night, and now till late in the day, without food for man or beast, we returned home at night, bringing 1 prisoner captured.

*March* 2.—Early this morning we went to a point below Ashland and divided, sending a scouting party toward the Old Church and the others moving back toward Negrofoot. The first party, under Sergeant Anderson, encamped near Atlee's, the other near Beaver Dam.

*March* 3.—Sergeant Anderson went below the Piper Tree and to Mr. Turner's, near Tunstall's Station, and returned to headquarters that night just after the other party arrived from above. Hearing from an enrolling officer in Caroline that the enemy were at Chilesburg, Sergeant Anderson with a party was sent up to that point immediately; and though he had ridden 60 miles that day, he continued to ride until 4 o'clock at night, and reported to me early the next morning.

*March* 4.—This day we scoured the country above in the neighborhood of Beaver Dam, New Market, Chilesburg, &c., to ascertain the foundation of a thousand wild rumors, and returned to-night satisfied that no enemy is within 40 miles of us.

The enemy threw at least a ton of ammunition into the South River, and some of our boys went in and got several hundred cartridges suited to our Burnside rifles. A citizen has gotten out nearly 1,000 pounds of all kinds, and several hundred of the kind suited to our rifles. Will the Department be so good as to give me a requisition for those, as they are all loose, paying the gentleman a reasonable compensation for his trouble? The paper cartridges furnished us are worse than useless; they will not fire once in five times, and never with any accuracy.

Pardon me for this long and rough report of the doings of the noble little band which has honored [me] as their commander.

L. B. ANDERSON,
*Capt. North Anna Home Guards, now known as Mounted Rifles.*

Hon. Secretary SEDDON.

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No. 17.

*Congratulatory orders.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
No. 10. } *March* 8, 1864.

The major-general commanding congratulates the troops upon their completely successful defense of the city of Richmond and its rescue from the ravages of the invader. The enemy was gallantly repulsed on the north side by Colonel Stevens' command and on the west by Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee's troops. Their conduct is entitled to the highest praise and credit. To Col. Bradley T. Johnson and the officers and soldiers under his command the thanks of the major-general are especially due for the prompt and vigorous manner in

which they pursued the enemy from Beaver Dam to Richmond, and thence to the Pamunkey and down the Peninsula, making repeated charges, capturing many prisoners and horses, and thwarting any attempt of the enemy to charge them. The major-general commanding begs leave to tender to Major-General Hampton and his command his sincere thanks for their co-operation in following up the enemy and their gallant assault upon his camp at Atlee's Station on Tuesday night, in which the enemy's entire force was stampeded and completely routed, leaving in the hands of General Hampton many prisoners and horses. Lastly, the conduct of the home guards of King and Queen County, and of Captain McGruder's squadron of the Forty-second Battalion Virginia Cavalry, which, in conjunction with small detachments of furloughed men, under Captain Fox and Lieutenant Pollard, of the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia, attacked the retreating column of Colonel Dahlgren, killing the leader and capturing nearly 100 prisoners, with negroes and horses, deserves public acknowledgment.

By command of Major-General Elzey:

T. O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ADDENDA.*

HDQRS. LEE'S DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF N. VA.,
*March* 4, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit the inclosed papers,* found upon the body of Col. U. Dahlgren, of the U. S. Army, who was killed by a portion of my command, assisted by a portion of Colonel Robins' cavalry battalion and a detachment of the home guards of King and Queen, in that county, upon the night of the 2d. These papers were sent by Lieutenant Pollard, commanding a detachment of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, to Colonel Beale, and by him transmitted direct to me. They need no comment. Colonel Dahlgren commanded a force picked to co-operate with Brigadier-General Kilpatrick in his ridiculous and unsoldierly raid, and lost his life running off negroes after the failure of his insane attempt to destroy Richmond and kill Jeff. Davis and cabinet. The force of negroes and Yankees captured after his fall amount to about 140.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FITZ. LEE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

—

RICHMOND, *March* 4, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

DEAR SIR: It has occurred to me that the papers just captured from the enemy are of such an extraordinary and diabolical character that some more formal method should be adopted of giving them to the public than simply sending them to the press. My own conviction is for an execution of the prisoners and a publication as justifi-

*See inclosures Lee to Meade, April 1, p. 178.

cation; but in any event the publication should go forth with official sanction from the highest authority, calling the attention of our people and the civilized world to the fiendish and atrocious conduct of our enemies.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

—

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., March 5, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I inclose to you herewith a slip from one of the morning papers containing an account of the disposal of a portion of the enemy's force which recently attacked this city, and a copy of the papers* found on the body of Colonel Dahlgren, who was killed. The diabolical character of those papers and of the enterprise they indicate seems to require at our hands something more than a mere informal publication in our newspapers. My own inclinations are toward the execution of at least a portion of those captured at the time Colonel Dahlgren was killed, and a publication of these papers as its justification. At any rate, a formal publication from the highest official position should issue, calling the attention of our people and that of the civilized world to the atrocious modes of warfare adopted by our enemies. General Bragg's views coincide with my own on this subject. The question of what is best to be done is a grave and important one, and I desire to have the benefit of your views and any suggestions you may make. It is not for the purpose of evading or sharing any responsibility which may attach to the action to be taken that I seek to know your views, but simply that in determining what is best to be done I may have the aid of your wisdom and experience, as well as your judgment of what would be the sentiment of the army on a course of severe but just retribution. You will, of course, appreciate to what consequences such a course may not rightfully, yet not unnaturally, considering the unscrupulousness and malignity of our foes, lead, and estimate such results in forming your judgment.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Inclosure.—From Richmond Daily Examiner, March 5.]

ANOTHER AFFAIR WITH THE ENEMY AROUND RICHMOND—CAPTURE OF IMPORTANT PAPERS AND MEMORANDA OF THE ENEMY, ETC.

The first rumor of the raiders afloat yesterday was that General Stuart, coming down the Louisa mountain road, had intercepted their retreat, captured 1,200 prisoners, and released all the negroes in their hands. This report lacked confirmation, but it was soon followed by a well-authenticated report of a success quite equal in interest, if not in magnitude, to that ascribed to General Stuart.

* See inclosures Lee to Meade, April 1, p. 178.

### BRILLIANT AFFAIR IN KING AND QUEEN COUNTY—COLONEL DAHLGREN KILLED.

News was brought in during the morning of the brilliant affair of a small body of Confederate cavalry under the command of Lieutenant Pollard, who had attacked a body of Yankee cavalry under the command of Colonel Dahlgren, killing their commander, taking 90 prisoners and 35 negroes and 150 horses. The fight occurred at Walkerton on Wednesday night about 11 o'clock. The body of cavalry under Dahlgren's command numbered some 300 or 400, being part of the force which had appeared on the Westham plank road. They had crossed the Mattapony at Aylett's. The wretch who commanded them was the son of Commodore Dahlgren, of ordnance notoriety. It would have been well if the body of the land pirate had been gibbeted in chains on the spot where he fell. Lieutenant Pollard commands Company H, of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry. He was aided by some home guards and a small detachment from Lieutenant-Colonel Robins' command.

From the courier who came in yesterday we have some interesting particulars of Lieutenant Pollard's affair with the enemy. It appears that with his company of cavalry he followed the enemy across the Mattapony during the whole of Wednesday, harassing his rear. At the forks of the road the enemy took that leading to Walkerton, while Lieutenant Pollard, directing a few of his men to follow the enemy on that route and make a pretense of pursuit, rapidly withdrew the larger portion of his force to the other road. He succeeded in making a circuit of the enemy, and about 11 o'clock at night appeared on their front, having been joined by some home guards and a few of Robins' command. The Yankees attempted to charge through our lines, the charge being headed by Dahlgren himself. He was shot dead before his column came in contact with our lines. A fight ensued, with the results referred to, to which we may add the fortunate circumstance that not a man of our command was killed. Several Yankees were killed, and the force not captured was dispersed in a wild flight, aided by the cover of the woods and the night.

### FULL DISCLOSURE OF THE ENEMY'S PLANS—RICHMOND TO BE DESTROYED—THE PRESIDENT AND HIS CABINET TO BE KILLED, ETC.

The following papers and memoranda were found on Dahlgren's person, and contain the indisputable evidence of the diabolical designs of the enemy.

The following address to the officers and men of the command was written on a sheet of paper having in printed letters on the upper corner, "Headquarters Third Division, Cavalry Corps, ———, 1864:"

OFFICERS AND MEN:

You have been selected from brigades and regiments as a picked command to attempt a desperate undertaking—an undertaking which, if successful, will write your names on the hearts of your countrymen in letters that can never be erased, and which will cause the prayers of our fellow-soldiers now confined in loathsome prisons to follow you and yours wherever you may go. We hope to release the prisoners from Belle Island first, and having seen them fairly started, we will cross the James River into Richmond, destroying the bridges after us and exhorting the released prisoners to destroy and burn the hateful city; and do not allow the rebel leader Davis and his traitorous crew to escape. The prisoners must render great assistance, as you cannot leave your ranks too far or become too much scattered, or

you will be lost. Do not allow any personal gain to lead you off, which would only bring you to an ignominious death at the hands of citizens. Keep well together and obey orders strictly and all will be well; but on no account scatter too far, for in union there is strength. With strict obedience to orders and fearlessness in the execution you will be sure to succeed. We will join the main force on the other side of the city, or perhaps meet them inside. Many of you may fall; but if there is any man here not willing to sacrifice his life in such a great and glorious undertaking, or who does not feel capable of meeting the enemy in such a desperate fight as will follow, let him step out, and he may go hence to the arms of his sweetheart and read of the braves who swept through the city of Richmond. We want no man who cannot feel sure of success in such a holy cause. We will have a desperate fight, but stand up to it when it does come, and all will be well. Ask the blessing of the Almighty, and do not fear the enemy.

U. DAHLGREN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

## SPECIAL ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS.

The following special orders were written on a similar sheet of paper and on detached slips, the whole disclosing the diabolical plans of the leaders of the expedition:

Guides.—Pioneers (with oakum, turpentine, and torpedoes), signal officer, quartermaster, commissary. Scouts and pickets. Men in rebel uniform. These will remain on the north bank and move down with the force on the south bank, not getting ahead of them, and if the communication can be kept up without giving an alarm it must be done; but everything depends upon a surprise, and no one must be allowed to pass ahead of the column. Information must be gathered in regard to the crossings of the river, so that should we be repulsed on the south side we will know where to recross at the nearest point. All mills must be burned and the canal destroyed, and also everything which can be used by the rebels must be destroyed, including the boats on the river. Should a ferry-boat be seized and can be worked, have it moved down. Keep the force on the south side posted of any important movement of the enemy, and in case of danger some of the scouts must swim the river and bring us information. As we approach the city the party must take great care that they do not get ahead of the other party on the south side, and must conceal themselves and watch our movements. We will try and secure the bridge to the city, 1 mile below Belle Isle, and release the prisoners at the same time. If we do not succeed they must then dash down, and we will try and carry the bridge from each side. When necessary, the men must be filed through the woods and along the river bank. The bridges once secured, and the prisoners loose and over the river, the bridges will be secured and the city destroyed. The men must keep together and well in hand, and once in the city it must be destroyed and Jeff. Davis and cabinet killed. Pioneers will go along with combustible material. The officer must use his discretion about the time of assisting us. Horses and cattle which we do not need immediately must be shot rather than left. Everything on the canal and elsewhere of service to the rebels must be destroyed. As General Custer may follow me, be careful not to give a false alarm.*

The signal officer must be prepared to communicate at night by rockets, and in other things pertaining to his department.

The quartermasters and commissaries must be on the lookout for their departments, and see that there are no delays on their account.

The engineer officer will follow to survey the road as we pass over it, &c.

The pioneers must be prepared to construct a bridge or destroy one. They must have plenty of oakum and turpentine for burning, which will be rolled in soaked balls and given to the men to burn when we get in the city. Torpedoes will only be used by the pioneers for destroying the main bridges, &c. They must be prepared to destroy railroads. Men will branch off to the right with a few pioneers and destroy the bridges and railroads south of Richmond, and then join us at the city. They must be well prepared with torpedoes, &c. The line of Falling Creek is probably the best to work along, or as they approach the city Goode's Creek, so that no re-enforcements can come up on any cars. No one must be allowed to pass ahead for fear of communicating news. Rejoin the command with all haste, and

* Following paragraphs not found in the photographic copies forwarded by General Lee to General Meade.

if cut off cross the river above Richmond and rejoin us. Men will stop at Bellona Arsenal and totally destroy it, and anything else but hospitals: then follow on and rejoin the command at Richmond with all haste, and if cut off cross the river and rejoin us. As General Custer may follow me, be careful not to give a false alarm.

### PROGRAMME OF THE ROUTE AND WORK.

The following is an exact copy of a paper written in lead-pencil, which appears to have been a private memorandum of the programme which Dahlgren had made to enable him to keep his work clearly in mind:

Saturday—Leave camp at dark (6 p. m.). Cross Ely's Ford at 10 p. m.
Twenty miles—Cross North Anna at 4 a. m. Sunday. Feed and water one hour.
Three miles—Frederick Hall Station 6 a. m. Destroy arts 8 a. m.
Twenty miles—Near James River 2 p. m. Sunday. Feed and water one hour and a half.
Thirty miles to Richmond—March toward Kilpatrick for one hour, and then as soon as dark cross the river, reaching Richmond early in the morning (Monday).
One squadron remains on north side and one squadron to cut the railroad bridge at Falling Creek, and join at Richmond; 83 miles.
General Kilpatrick—Cross at 1 a. m. Sunday; 10 miles.
Pass river 5 a. m. Resistance.
Chilesburg—Fourteen miles; 8 a. m.
Resistance at North Anna; 3 miles.
Railroad bridges at South Anna; 26 miles; 2 p. m. Destroy bridges, pass the South Anna, and feed until after dark; then signal each other. After dark move down to Richmond and be in front of the city at daybreak.
Return—In Richmond during the day. Feed and water men outside.
Be over the Pamunkey at daybreak. Feed and water and then cross the Rappahannock at night (Tuesday night), when they must be on the lookout.
Spies should be sent on Friday morning early, and be ready to cut.

### A GUIDE FURNISHED.

The following paper was inclosed in an envelope directed to Col. U. Dahlgren, etc., at General Kilpatrick's headquarters, and marked "Confidential." The letter is not dated:

Colonel DAHLGREN, etc.:

DEAR COLONEL: At the last moment I have found the man you want; well acquainted with the James River from Richmond up. I send him to you mounted on my own private horse. You will have to furnish him a horse. Question him five minutes, and you will find him the very man you want.

Respectfully and truly, yours,

JOHN C. BABCOCK.

On the margin of this letter is written:

He crossed at Rapidan last night, and has late information.

### MURDER OF THEIR NEGRO GUIDE BY THE RAIDERS.

There now remains no doubt of the barbarous atrocity of the Yankee raiders in the murder of an inoffensive negro who was captured near the Rapidan. The victim of their brutal wrath was a boy named Martin, the property of Mr. David Meems, of Goochland. It appears that the negro was impressed as a pilot, and had informed the Yankees that they could cross the river at Jude's Ferry, about 2 miles from Dover Mills. The river was, however, fuller than usual, although it is very probable that the negro advised the raiders according to the best of his information. For no other offense than the imaginary one of misleading the enemy, the negro was hung to a tree, where his dead body was found a few hours after life was extinct.

It is now quite certain that the Yankees intended to cross the river so as to attack the city from the south side and disconcert our defense by the various directions of their attack. They were, however, disappointed in their attempts to cross the river, and left no other recourse than to cut their way through to Kilpatrick. The wagon train which accompanied them was loaded with arms and equipments, and it is conjectured that these were provided for the prisoners, whose release from Belle Isle was undoubtedly one object of the excursion. The only damage done to the canal was the destruction of the wooden part of the aqueduct at Dover Mills. A few hundred dollars will repair it.

### THE ENEMY AT TUNSTALL'S.

We learn that the Yankees destroyed Pearson's saw-mill, near Tunstall's Station. They plundered the neighboring country of all the grain and meat they could lay their hands on. They did no damage to the railroad.

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HEADQUARTERS, *March* 6, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond:*

SIR: I have just received your letter of the 5th instant inclosing a slip from one of the Richmond journals, giving an account of the recent attack upon that city, and a copy of some papers found on the dead body of Colonel Dahlgren, disclosing the plan and purpose of the enterprise. I concur with you in thinking that a formal publication of these papers should be made under official authority, that our people and the world may know the character of the war our enemies wage against us, and the unchristian and atrocious acts they plot and perpetrate. But I cannot recommend the execution of the prisoners that have fallen into our hands. Assuming that the address and special orders of Colonel Dahlgren correctly state his designs and intentions, they were not executed, and I believe, even in a legal point of view, acts in addition to intentions are necessary to constitute crime. These papers can only be considered as evidence of his intentions. It does not appear how far his men were cognizant of them, or that his course was sanctioned by his Government. It is only known that his plans were frustrated by a merciful Providence, his forces scattered, and he killed. I do not think it right, therefore, to visit upon the captives the guilt of his intentions. I do not pretend to speak the sentiments of the army, which you seem to desire. I presume that the blood boils with indignation in the veins of every officer and man as they read the account of the barbarous and inhuman plot, and under the impulse of the moment many would counsel extreme measures. But I do not think that reason and reflection would justify such a course. I think it better to do right, even if we suffer in so doing, than to incur the reproach of our consciences and posterity. Nor do I think that under present circumstances policy dictates the execution of these men. It would produce retaliation. How many and better men have we in the enemy's hands than they have in ours? But this consideration should have no weight provided the course was in itself right. Yet

history records instances where such considerations have prevented the execution of marauders and devastators of provinces.

It may be pertinent to this subject to refer to the conduct of some of our men in the valley. I have heard that a party of Gilmor's battalion, after arresting the progress of a train of cars on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, took from the passengers their purses and watches. As far as I know no military object was accomplished after gaining possession of the cars, and the act appears to have been one of plunder. Such conduct is unauthorized and discreditable. Should any of that battalion be captured the enemy might claim to treat them as highway robbers. What would be our course? I have ordered an investigation of the matter and hope the report may be untrue.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *March* 30, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the President to send you the inclosed papers, which are photographic copies of the originals, and the originals taken from the body of the late Col. U. Dahlgren, U. S. Army, who was killed by a detachment of our troops whilst he was in command of a portion of the Federal cavalry in the late expedition under General Kilpatrick. The Government is in possession of ample and incontestable evidence that the papers were taken from the body, which was identified as that of Colonel Dahlgren. In one of them the plan and object of the expedition are stated.

"The prisoners being released," it is added, "once in the city (Richmond) it must be destroyed, and Jeff. Davis and cabinet killed." The other is an address signed officially by Dahlgren to the officers and men of his command. It contains the following language:

> We hope to release the Federal prisoners from Belle Island first, and having seen them fairly started, we will cross the James River into Richmond, destroying the bridges after us, and exhorting the released prisoners to destroy and burn the hateful city, and to not allow the rebel leader Davis and his traitorous crew to escape.

The President directs that you open a correspondence with the general commanding the Federal Army of the Potomac to ascertain if the orders and instructions of Colonel Dahlgren, as contained in these papers, were in conformity to instructions from his Government or superior officers, and whether the Government of the United States sanctions the sentiments and purposes therein set forth.*

The originals of these papers may be retained by you as long as you consider it necessary, and afterward please return them to this office.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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* See Lee to Meade, April 1, p. 178.

HDQRS. LEE'S DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF N. VA.,
*March* 31, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose to you Colonel Dahlgren's note-book,* just sent to me by Colonel Beale, commanding Ninth Virginia Cavalry. Had I known of its existence it would have been forwarded with the papers.

His name and rank is written on the first page, with the date (probably) of his purchasing it. The book, amongst other memoranda, contains a rough pencil sketch of his address to his troops, differing somewhat from his pen-and-ink copy. I embrace this occasion to add, the original papers bore no marks of alteration, nor could they have possibly been changed except by the courier who brought them to me, which is in the highest degree improbable, and the publication of them in the Richmond papers were exact copies in every respect of the originals.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FITZ. LEE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 3, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the papers pertaining to Dahlgren's expedition against Richmond, forwarded yesterday. Lieutenant Davis, of General Winder's staff, delivered them in person.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

—

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 10, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: On the receipt of your letter inclosing the documents found on the body of Colonel Dahlgren, in accordance with the instructions of the Department, I wrote a letter to General Meade upon the subject, under the date of April 1, and sent it to General Stuart, to be forwarded by flag of truce. In consequence, however, of the late heavy rains it has been impossible to cross the Robertson River at the point where flags of truce have usually been received by the Federal commanders, and I fear the same cause will prevent any communication for some time.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

* Not found.

**FEBRUARY 29–MARCH 1, 1864.—Skirmishes at Ballahock, on Bear Quarter Road, and at Deep Creek, Va.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Martin B. Smith, Eighth Connecticut Infantry.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Near Portsmouth, Va., March 5*, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 29th February it was reported to me by Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, commanding post at Deep Creek, that the enemy were making demonstrations in his front, the patrol from Ballahock to South Mills having been driven in, and the enemy's cavalry making its appearance in force. I immediately ordered a reconnaissance to be made in the direction of South Mills; at the same time ordered 100 men of the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers and 100 men of the Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers, also the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers, to Deep Creek, and proceeded to the front in person.

Lieut. Thomas Burnett, Company B, Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, commanding detachment of Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, while skirmishing with the enemy who were opposing him with about 300 infantry and endeavoring to surround him, brought his men out in good order, with the loss of 1 man killed and 1 wounded, displaying great bravery and coolness.

A detachment of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanded by Captain Faith, behaved in a very discreditable manner. Upon the enemy firing a few shots into their advance they broke and ran in great disorder, a portion of them falling into the canal, others into the swamp, &c.

At daylight on the 2d instant started forward and found the enemy had retired, having dug ditches across the road, destroyed the bridge, &c., to prevent pursuit. Having repaired the bridge, again followed until dark, driving them across the line into North Carolina in the direction of South Mills. In coming up with the enemy I found them in line of battle, one battery covering the road and their infantry in the bushes. Their force being very much larger than mine, and darkness coming on, I did not deem it prudent to attack, and fell back to a strong position at the bridge over the Northwest Canal. I left Colonel Keese, of the One hundred and eighteenth New York, in command, with instructions to hold that position, to picket the different roads, and to patrol those leading to Northwest Landing. During the march I learned of a number of roads of which I had no previous knowledge, all of which are thoroughly guarded, and no approach can now be made without my being informed.

The enemy's force consisted of four regiments and one battalion of infantry, one regiment of cavalry, and two batteries, commanded by General Ransom. My force consisted of 800 infantry, 150 cavalry, and one section of artillery.

Our loss was as follows: Albert S. Nutt, Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, killed; Joel Hulse, Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, wounded;

1 officer and 6 men of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry missing, with 13 horses. A deserter, Patrick Tenney, Thirty-first North Carolina Volunteers, who came within our lines, has been duly forwarded.

Inclosed find copy of report of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Fort Monroe.*]

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No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Martin B. Smith, Eighth Connecticut Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS,
*Deep Creek, Va., March* 4, 1864.

CAPTAIN: On the 29th February ultimo, at 10 a. m., I received a communication from Ballahock Station that my patrol of 8 men (patrolling the road from that station to South Mills) had come in contact with the enemy and were driven back to Ballahock. I immediately sent forward Captain Lompe, of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with 40 men, to Ballahock Station, with orders to report what information he could gain of the enemy's movements.

At 1 p. m. I received a report from Captain Lompe that about 30 rebel cavalry were seen 4 miles from the Ballahock post, on the road leading to South Mills, and I immediately reported that information to the general commanding. In reply I was instructed to send my cavalry on a reconnaissance to South Mills, and report any information I might learn to headquarters.

On the following morning (March 1) at 4 a. m. Captain Lompe moved forward in the direction of South Mills. At 10 a. m., not hearing anything from that officer, I started for the Ballahock Station, and had proceeded about 2 miles when I met an orderly coming in on a gallop, who informed me that Captain Lompe was retreating and the enemy in close pursuit. I had proceeded but a short distance farther on when I met Captain Lompe. I immediately ordered him to halt and form in line of battle, which he instantly did, the enemy at that time being about 1 mile distant.

By an order from the general, who had just arrived at the scene of action, I ordered forward a detachment of 100 men of the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, under command of Lieut. Thomas Burnett. Shortly before they arrived the enemy began to fall back, when I followed in pursuit, with orders from the general to proceed as far as the Ballahock road, he at the time returning to headquarters. After advancing about 5 miles I found the enemy had halted and formed in line of battle on the Bear Quarter road. Perceiving this I detached 25 men of the Ninth New Jersey, who advanced as skirmishers. We advanced cautiously along the road for about 1½ miles, when we were fired upon from a dense thicket on the left of the road. We returned the fire and entered the thicket and perceived the enemy, who numbered about 300, moving toward our rear with the evident intention of cutting us off. To prevent them, we retired by the left

flank, continuing the firing, which caused them to relinquish their original design; and here let me add that Lieutenant Burnett, who had charge of the advance, showed himself to be a brave and efficient officer. Owing to the superior force opposed to us I ordered forward from this post two pieces of artillery and 100 men of the Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers, all under command of Captain Simpson. Later in the evening we again advanced and engaged the enemy. Night coming on, and by reason of the extreme darkness which prevailed, we retired about 1 mile and bivouacked for the night. About 8 o'clock I started to report in person to the general at Deep Creek. At the distance of 1 mile from my command I met Captain Faith with a detachment of 100 men of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry. On halting him he stated he was to report to Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, when I informed him that I was that officer and ordered him to report to Captain Simpson, whom I left in command.

On the following morning (March 2) I learned that Captain Faith, instead of reporting as directed, passed our column until he reached the enemy's camp, who, not relishing his appearance on such a dark night, greeted him with a volley of musketry, which caused him to reverse his column in haste, dismounting several horses and causing many with their riders to plunge into the Dismal Swamp Canal, those escaping the water falling back in confusion on Captain Simpson's artillery, which was stationed on the road in their rear, causing several more to be dismounted; some having their shoulder-blades dislocated, others their legs broken, &c. Captain Simpson finally succeed in forming many of them in his rear, Captain Faith, at this position of affairs, being satisfied to report to Captain Simpson.

Captain Lompe, in his report of his reconnaissance to South Mills, states that his advance guard on reaching the 16-mile stone was confronted by a force of between 300 and 400 rebels. Having moved to the front, and satisfying himself of the enemy's strength, he ordered Lieutenant Phillips, who was in charge of the advance guard, to be vigilant; that he was going to fall back. He immediately dispatched two orderlies, one to Lieutenant Shaffer, commanding picket Ballahock, and the other to the undersigned at Deep Creek. Giving Lieutenant Phillips charge of the rear guard, he reversed his column and immediately perceived the enemy charging in full force, distant about one-third of a mile. He at once ordered a gallop, and fell back in good order over the Northwest Canal bridge, tearing up the planks as soon as he crossed. He then formed his command in line of battle, and at this point he found that Lieutenant Phillips and a portion of his command was missing. Being forced from his position he fell back to Deep Creek, as before stated.

There are missing from Captain Lompe's command 1 lieutenant and 7 privates, with their equipments, together with 13 horses and their equipments. Lieutenant Burnett, in his report of the engagement at Bear Quarter road, reports 1 private (Albert S. Nutt) killed and 1 (Joel Hulse) wounded, both of the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers. Total casualties up to March 2, instant, 1 killed, 1 wounded, and 7 missing, with 13 horses. On the morning of that day the general assumed command in person.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. B. SMITH,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post Deep Creek.*

Capt. W. H. ABEL,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**FEBRUARY 29–MARCH 5, 1864.—Expedition to Petersburg and destruction of Saltpeter-Works near Franklin, W. Va.**

*Report of Lieut. Col. Augustus I. Root, Fifteenth New York Cavalry.*

HDQRS. FIFTEENTH REGT. NEW YORK VOL. CAV.,
*Camp near Burlington, W. Va., March* 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you, for the information of the colonel commanding, that in obedience to an order received from division headquarters on the 28th day of February, 1864, I moved with my command, 400 strong, at 8 p. m., on the 29th ultimo, toward Petersburg, W. Va., and arrived there at daylight on the 1st instant. meeting with no opposition and finding no enemy there. I strongly picketed all approaches to the place, and camped my command in a ravine about 1 mile from town.

During the day I directed the detached portions of the command that had reported to me to take three days' rations in haversacks and two days' forage for animals on the horses, and be prepared to move at 8 p. m. One of the wagons of my command containing supplies not coming up I could only take two days' rations for men and animals for the Fifteenth New York Cavalry. The command that I had been informed would report to me at Petersburg on the 1st instant to take charge of my wagons did not arrive until 8 p. m. Before I could have formed the command, drawn in my pickets, and crossed the river, it would have been 2 o'clock, and from the bad condition of the roads it would have been impossible for me to have reached Franklin at daylight on the 2d instant, and owing to the snow-storm of the previous twenty-four hours my men and animals had been unable to obtain any rest, and upon the suggestion of Captain Pease, of your staff, I decided not to move until the evening of the 2d instant.

At 7 p. m., on the 2d, I moved forward and arrived at Franklin a little after daylight on the 3d. Finding no enemy there I moved forward, with one squadron, to the saltpeter-works, 4 miles south of the town, and completely destroyed the buildings and all the materials for carrying on the works.

Being satisfied from the information that had been obtained that there was no force of the enemy in the Crab Bottom country, and learning that the enemy's forces had been ordered to concentrate on the South Fork, I decided to move directly to Circleville, distant 15 miles. I left Franklin at 3 p. m., crossed the North Mountain, and reached Circleville at 7 p. m., and camped. Moved forward at daylight down the North Fork. Near evening I received information from a citizen (Mr. Carr) that a part of the force left in charge of my train at Petersburg had been captured and the balance of it had fallen back. I pushed forward and took up a position at the junction of the Greenland and North Fork roads, arriving there at 3 a. m. of the 5th, having marched 37 miles.

In the mean time I had sent Lieutenant Gibson, of the Ringgold Cavalry, with 10 men to ascertain what force (if any) of the enemy were in my front. I received a report from him at daylight, that he had been into Petersburg and there was no force there. I immediately moved forward, arriving there at 12 m. Finding no rations or forage there for my command I decided to move at once to Burlington, where I arrived at 11 p. m.

My command has marched, since leaving camp, 172 miles over a very rough road, and for two days with but little subsistence, the country being entirely destitute of anything but hay. My loss in material, from examination, has been 12 horses. The 6-mule wagon that accompanied the command was precipitated down a precipice and destroyed. From 2 prisoners that were captured I received information that on the day of my arrival in Franklin the enrolling officer for the Confederate Government, with a provost guard, was to have arrived there, and the men that had been conscripted were ordered to report there on that day. My arrival was very opportune, and the destruction of the saltpeter-works must have been a loss to the Confederate Government of $8,000 or $10,000.

I desire to express my sincere thanks to Lieutenants McKenzie and Nugent, of the staff of the colonel commanding, and Lieutenant Gibson, of the Ringgold Cavalry, for the prompt and efficient manner in which they performed all the duties assigned to them, but I would particularly request that Lieutenant Crago, of the Ringgold Battalion, will not be again assigned to any command under me. To Captain Pease I am under special obligations for his assistance in the general movements of the command.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. I. ROOT,
*Lieut. Col., Comdg. Fifteenth New York Vol. Cavalry.*

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**MARCH 3, 1864.—Skirmish near Petersburg, W. Va.**

*Report of Col. Daniel D. Johnson, Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, Department of West Virginia.*

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
*New Creek, W. Va., March* 12, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to an order of the colonel commanding division, dated February 28, 1864, I directed Captain Work, commanding detachment of the Ringgold Battalion Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, at Greenland Gap, to move with his entire availabla force on the 1st day of March into Petersburg, W. Va., there to remain as a guard for the supply train of the Fifteenth New York Cavalry. Captain Work arrived at Petersburg on the evening of the 1st instant, with 33 men, and was joined by Lieutenant Denny with 27 men on the evening of the 2d instant. On the 3d instant Captain Work sent Lieutenant Denny and 27 men to scout in the direction of Moorefield. They came in contact with a small force of the enemy about 8 miles from Petersburg and charged upon them, and drove them back a short distance, when the enemy was reenforced and attacked Lieutenant Denny in overwhelming force, compelling him to retreat. Captain Work reports our loss in this skirmish, 7 men missing and 13 horses and equipments captured. The enemy's loss is 2 horses killed and 2 men severely wounded.

On the evening of the 3d instant Captain Work, deeming his position unsafe, fell back toward Greenland Gap, a distance of 5 miles, where he bivouacked for the night. On the morning of the 4th instant he returned to Petersburg, and discovering the enemy

close to the town he ordered the train to Greenland Gap, and in the evening fell back again to his camp of the previous night. On the 5th instant the Fifteenth New York Cavalry returned through Petersburg, W. Va., and Captain Work returned to his camp at Greenland Gap.

Very respectfully,

D. D. JOHNSON,
*Colonel.*

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 4–5, 1864.—Demonstration on Portsmouth, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Near Portsmouth, Va., March* 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 4th instant the commanding officer at the outpost—Bernard's Mills—reported the enemy advancing from the village of Suffolk in force, their line of skirmishers presenting a formidable front for my necessarily small force at that post.

I immediately sent the Twenty-third Massachusetts and one section of 3-inch guns to his support, and went to the front to ascertain fully the state of affairs. I found that they had established a strong line of pickets just without rifle range. Having placed to the best advantage the small force at hand, I asked for the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts, which was promptly sent me and made use of. Information received from deserters and others deterred me from attacking, of which you were duly informed. On receiving your telegram, informing me that re-enforcements were on the way, I immediately returned to headquarters, leaving the advance in command of Colonel Elwell, Twenty-third Massachusetts, to make the proper dispositions of the troops as they arrived. Brigadier-General Birney was sent forward to the front with one of his regiments—the Seventh. Colonel Duncan was assigned to the command at Bowers' Hill, one of his regiments, the Fifth, having re-enforced that post, a most important point in case of an attack on our main position.

On Sunday morning General Kilpatrick arrived, and finally offered the services of himself and command. Sunday afternoon, received intelligence that the enemy were retiring. I immediately proceeded to the front, and with the Second U. S. Colored Cavalry (Colonel Cole) started in pursuit. From all the information that could be obtained from prisoners and others, I learned that the enemy commenced retiring about 12 o'clock Saturday night, evidently frightened away by the firing from the admiral's gun-boats. I followed them about 8 miles beyond Suffolk, toward the Blackwater, thoroughly scouring all the roads for miles, and am satisfied they are beyond the Blackwater. General Ransom was below Sandy Cross at last accounts, making for the Blackwater. As soon as the demonstration was made in front I ordered the Tenth New Hampshire to re-enforce Colonel Roberts in the District of Currituck, who kept his cavalry constantly at work scouring the country, and reports the canal navigable, and that it has not been interfered with during the recent visit of the enemy.

Colonel Roberts is untiring in his efforts to free his district from guerrillas and the enemy, and has matters in much better condition than they have been heretofore. Colonel Keese, of the One hundred and eighteenth New York, commanding outpost near Deep Creek, has also been vigilant and active with his command. The country is thoroughly patrolled, and reconnaissances are made frequently. Detachments are now out from both Roberts' and Keese's commands. Their reports I will forward as soon as they arrive.

Immediately upon my arrival at the front yesterday, and finding the enemy had retired, I at once relieved General Birney and his regiments stationed there, and they have returned. The enemy have disappeared entirely and all is quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 5, 1864.—Raid on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. Robert E. Duvall, Purnell Legion Maryland Cavalry.
No. 2.—Capt. Thaddeus Fitzhugh, Fifth Virginia Cavalry.

No. 1.

*Report of Capt. Robert E. Duvall, Purnell Legion Maryland Cavalry.*

EASTVILLE, VA., *March 7*, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor respectfully to report that at daybreak upon the morning of the 5th instant my guard at Cherrystone was attacked by a band of guerrillas, numbering from 40 to 50 men, commanded by Captain Fitzhugh, of the rebel cavalry. The guard, numbering 8 men, in charge of Corporal Ozmon, was overpowered and captured, with the exception of 2, who were on guard over the telegraph box, 1½ miles distant. The rebels destroyed commissary stores to the amount of about $2,000, the guard-house, the telegraph instrument and apparatus at Cherrystone; killed and wounded 8 horses; seized and bonded the steamer Iolas, at that time lying near the Cherrystone wharf, and captured and escaped in the Government steam-tug Titan.

As soon as information reached me at Eastville, I proceeded with all possible dispatch to Cherrystone with all the available men at my command, but the guerrillas were just leaving the wharf as I reached there, and having no available boat at my command I was unable to intercept them.

From information received I am satisfied that the rebels came from Mathews County, Va., and they have doubtless returned to the neighborhood of Mob Jack Bay.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. DUVALL,
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps.*

No. 2.

*Report of Capt. Thaddeus Fitzhugh, Fifth Virginia Cavalry.*

STEAMER TITAN,
*Piankatank River, March* 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have just returned from an expedition across the Chesapeake Bay to Cherrystone, Northampton County, Va., where I captured the entire guard (cavalry), with their horses, arms, &c., and a large supply of subsistence stores, consisting of a large supply of army bread, 600 barrels of pork and bacon, and as many barrels of flour, rice, molasses, beans, sugar, coffee, &c.; also 9 army coats and several army cooking stoves, all of which I had to destroy by burning, not having the force or time sufficient to put on board the following vessels, which I afterward captured, viz: The steamers Iolas and Titan and a large schooner, with their entire crews. I sunk the schooner, bonded the Iolas, and brought the Titan safely across the bay into this river. I cut the submarine telegraph cable and destroyed the machinery and captured the operator, whom, together with crew of the Iolas, I paroled, not having the force sufficient to guard the prisoners and work the boat across the bay. All this I accomplished with 13 men of my company, assisted by Messrs. Maxwell and Burley, acting masters, C. S. Navy, who acted gallantly and were of great value to the success of the expedition. All of my men acted nobly, particularly Sergeant Marchant.

T. FITZHUGH,
*Capt. Co. F, Fifth Va. Cav., Lomax's Brig.*

Major-General LEE.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 27, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Captain Fitzhugh deserves credit for this affair, particularly as his men were on furlough at the time of its inception.

FITZHUGH LEE,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 30, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Capt. Thad. Fitzhugh deserves great credit for his bold enterprise, consummate skill, and extraordinary success, his bold followers demonstrating that the efficiency of the cavalry of this army is not limited to dry land. A portion of the same regiment aided in the capture of the Satellite, &c., last year at Rappahannock.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *April* 1, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for information of War Department.

Captain Fitzhugh, the naval officers, and the whole party deserve great credit for the success of their bold expedition.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

## MARCH 6, 1864.—Skirmish at Snickersville, Va.

### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Charles A. Wells, First New York Veteran Cavalry.
No. 2.—Capt. John J. Carter, First New York Veteran Cavalry.

### No. 1.

*Report of Maj. Charles A. Wells, First New York Veteran Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NEW YORK CAVALRY,
*Camp Sullivan, Halltown, Va., March 7*, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders from General Sullivan "to find out whether the enemy were about to cross at the Point of Rocks," I marched to Waterford Saturday afternoon, which place I reached at midnight.

At Hillsborough I left one company, Captain Carter, to guard my rear, which was strengthened at daylight by another company, Captain Cooley's (who had been searching houses in the vicinity of Purcellville during the night for furloughed soldiers, securing 1 of White's battalion, who had been turned over to Captain Leavitt, provost-marshal of Halltown, and 2 horses), making a force of 90 men at that place. I ordered Captain Carter to send a detachment at daylight to Purcellville to remain there until further orders.

I bivouacked at Waterford that night, and in the morning sent a force of 60 men, under Captain Banks, to Leesburg, but was unable to find the enemy in that vicinity, and I then ordered them to proceed down the Leesburg pike to Purcellville, and then cross to Hillsborough, bringing the detachment of 20 men I ordered there with them.

I remained at Waterford until 1 p. m., and then marched to Hillsborough, arriving there at 3 p. m. I there learned that the detachment sent out by Captain Carter to Purcellville had, by mistake, gone to Snickersville, where they had a fight with about 32 of the enemy, who killed and captured the party, the details of which will be found in the accompanying report of Captain Carter; that he had started out with the balance of his men, had joined Captain Banks' company at Purcellville, and gone in pursuit of the enemy. I halted my command until they returned at 8 p. m., sending a party to destroy the distillery as you ordered (a report of which has been forwarded), and then camped for the night, leaving there at 8 o'clock this morning. From all information I could gather, there had been no organized force of the enemy in the vicinity of Leesburg for three weeks.

I wish to bring before you the fact that only a few of our carbines (Staun's) can be relied upon, as shown in Captain Carter's report, and as I have noticed in trying them at target practice, and would respectfully recommend that a change of arm be made to one that can be relied upon and give the men their old confidence.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. WELLS,
*Major First New York Veteran Cav., Comdg. Detachment.*

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

*Report of Capt. John J. Carter, First New York Veteran Cavalry.*

HDQRS. FIRST VETERAN CAV., NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
*Camp Sullivan, near Halltown, Va., March 7*, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to report that, in obedience to orders received from headquarters First New York Veteran Cavalry, I proceeded with 60 men of my company (D), on the afternoon of the 5th instant, on an expedition through Loudoun Valley, Va., said expedition being commanded by you (Major Wells). Reaching Hillsborough about 10 p. m. on the night of the 5th instant, I received orders from you to hold the town (Hillsborough) with my command that night, the 5th, and that some time before morning I would be re-enforced by the command of Captain Cooley, who was about to start for Purcellville. I was further ordered by you to send 20 good men, under charge of a non-commissioned officer, to Purcellville on the morning of the 6th instant, say at 8 a. m., said party to picket the town until the command should return from Waterford, where you (Major Wells) was about to start, unless they saw a force of the enemy, when they were to remain until the object of the expedition would be accomplished. In obedience to those orders, I sent 4 corporals and 17 privates, all under the charge of my orderly sergeant, Alfred H. Cain, with the orders as heretofore mentioned, and giving him directions concerning the roads, &c.

The party started and all seemed well until about 2 p. m. of the 6th instant, when 3 of my men who had gone with the party in question came to camp and informed me that all the party sent out by you on that morning were either killed or captured except the 3 just returned, and also informed me that this had taken place at Snickersville. I immediately resolved to ascertain the truth of the matter, and at once started with 35 of my company for Snickersville, leaving Captain Cooley's command at Hillsborough to hold it. I had not gone more than 3 to 3½ miles before I met Captain Banks, of this regiment, and a part of your (Major Wells') command, and upon stating to him (Captain Banks) the object of my visit to Snickersville, he kindly volunteered with his command to go with me. I proceeded to Snickersville as fast as possible, nothing having transpired worthy of comment, and meeting but 2 of the enemy, one of which Alfred Crammer, Company B, First New York Veteran Cavalry, shot, and the other succeeded in making good his escape to the mountains.

On reaching Snickersville I found that 4 of my men were shot dead, 2 wounded, and that 10 were taken prisoners, while there were 3 missing whom I could not receive any account of, as they had taken the Leesburg pike, followed by a party of the enemy's cavalry, who at the latest accounts had not succeeded in capturing them. I found the orderly sergeant (he who commanded the party) at one of the houses badly wounded in the left hip and breast. I made such inquiries as was possible of him, and afterwards of the citizens, and all agreed to the following:

About 11.30 a. m. a party of cavalry (my men) came into Snickersville and immediately threw out pickets on the various approaches leading to the town. Then one-half of the party fed their horses while the rest remained ready to act. After remaining here about one-half hour, the picket in the gap (Snicker's) gave the alarm

that a party of rebels, about 18 or 20, were coming, upon which information the whole command was drawn up in line to await their coming, taking care that everything was in readiness to give them a good reception.

They remained in this manner some ten minutes, when a party (afterward ascertained to number 17 men) came charging down the road from the gap on the men drawn up in line. The sergeant in charge let them come within good carbine shot, when he gave the men orders to fire and immediately ordered a charge with drawn sabers, by which he succeeded in driving the enemy back into the gap; but hardly had he reached the rise of the hill when he found that another party (afterward ascertained to be 6 men) charged his rear, and on finding himself assailed both in front and rear he at once determined to cut his way through those in his rear and, if possible, reach Hillsborough; but on driving the party of 6 men through town the party who first came from the gap once more charged him, and a third party (afterward ascertained 8 men) came from the right of the town, and all concentrated their fire on the little party, who now became reduced by the loss of 3 killed in the first and second charges, but determined to either die or conquer (say the citizens of Snickersville). They fought on with nothing but the saber, while the enemy had 2 to their 1 and each man being armed with two revolvers and many with carbines. Then, to recapitulate, 22 of my men were assailed (according to the best information) by 32 of the enemy armed with two revolvers and a saber each, while to complete their armament quite a number were armed with good carbines, while my men had but two revolvers in the whole command and without a carbine that was good for anything. To illustrate, in the first volley out of seventeen carbines that there were in line and tried to be fired only four went off, although they were carefully loaded on the ground while awaiting the attack.

The casualties caused by these four shots to the enemy were as follows: Three saddles were emptied and 1 horse shot. My informants (the inhabitants) could or would not tell me whether the men were killed or not who were thus thrown from their saddles, but I afterward ascertained from a negro that 3 men were carried up the mountain, he thought dead. One was carried into a house badly, if not mortally, wounded, thus making a loss to the enemy of 3 (supposed to be) killed and 1 wounded, while the loss sustained by my men was 4 killed (1 of whom was said to have been killed after surrendering), 2 wounded, 10 prisoners, and 3 missing, making in all 19 men, horses, and equipments complete. Two horses and equipments were afterward picked up by command of Captain Banks and turned over to me, making the total loss of horses and horse equipments 17, 3 of which horses were killed in the streets of Snickersville and 3 or 4 others badly wounded, which were taken off by the enemy. I lost otherwise 19 sabers and belts, 19 carbines complete, and 3 revolvers, which my men borrowed before starting out.

After gaining all the information possible, and providing for the wounded of my company, I took the bodies of my men who were killed and returned to Hillsborough, where I reported to you (Major Wells) on the night of the 6th instant at 10 p. m., nothing having transpired more than is herein mentioned.

To conclude, I would commend to your notice Orderly Sergt. Alfred H. Cain, who, although going contrary to orders (in my opinion not

intentionally, however, for on reaching the Leesburg pike he did not find a sufficient collection of houses to warrant him, he says, that that was Purcellville), yet behaved himself so well and handled his men with such skill and confidence all through the action, overpowered by numbers and badly wounded himself, that he deserves the commendation of his commanding officers, and I would respectfully request that he be mentioned in your report as one who acted particularly gallant and handled his men with the ability of an officer higher in rank. In short, I would commend all the brave men who so nobly fought and nobly died while in the performance of their duty. The following is the list* of casualties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. CARTER,
*Captain, Commanding Company D.*

Maj. CHARLES A. WELLS,
*First New York Veteran Cavalry.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*March* 10, 1864.

The within report is respectfully forwarded.

Attention is called to the facts that the enemy were but little stronger than our own forces; that from reliable information our men were at their meals when first surprised, and that their being at Snickersville was in direct violation of orders.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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**MARCH 9, 1864.—Skirmish near Greenwich, Va.**

*Report of Maj. George F. McCabe, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

HDQRS. DETACHMENT 13TH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
*March* 10, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that the party who made the attack on the detachment Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry yesterday, 9th March, 1864, consisted of 40 men, under command of Mosby in person. I came up to him at Buckland Mills about 3.30 p. m. yesterday, and at once charged him. His command broke when I was a pistol-shot from him. I continued after him and ran his party through Thoroughfare Gap and on to his camp at Plains Station on the Manassas Gap road. I found his command encamped at that place in Sibley and shelter tents. He got his whole command in line, dismounted, behind a stone fence at that place, and I did not have men enough to attack him in his camp. I drove him so hard yesterday as to compel him to release 2 men he had captured, and they cut off their overcoats and blankets from their saddles so as to be lighter mounted, that they could get away. I do not think that there are more than 100 men in the camp at Plains Station, but I be-

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 4 killed, 2 wounded, and 13 missing.

lieve he can raise 500 men in a very short time. There would be no trouble to hem his camp in by parties going from Warrenton and this place.

Your obedient servant,

G. F. McCABE,
*Major Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

Lieutenant SWAN,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., Fifth Army Corps.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
*March* 10, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

This party was sent out to re-enforce one sent from Bristoe, which was being roughly handled.

R. B. AYRES,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*March* 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding Army of the Potomac.

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

*ADDENDA.**

March 9, a scout of 40 men, under the command of Lieutenant White, was attacked by the enemy in the vicinity of Greenwich. The party making the attack was composed of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry, Chincapin Rangers, and a detachment of Mosby's command. The casualties numbered 9, all taken prisoners; 4 wounded, now in hospital at Washington, D. C.

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## MARCH 9, 1864.—Skirmish near Suffolk, Va.

### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army.
No. 3.—Col. George W. Cole, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry.
No. 4.—Brig. Gen. Matthew W. Ransom, C. S. Army.

### No. 1.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army.*

FORT MONROE, *March* 12, 1864.
(Received 4.10 p. m.)

Cole's cavalry (Second United States) had a skirmish the day before yesterday with the enemy near Suffolk. While making a reconnaissance they came upon Ransom's brigade, consisting of four

* From return of Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry Corps, for March, 1864.

regiments of infantry, four pieces of artillery, and 300 cavalry. The enemy made a charge with their cavalry upon two squadrons of Cole's, and were handsomely repulsed with large loss (with a loss of some 60). The charge brought the colored soldiers into hand-to-hand fight with the rebels, and the enthusiastic testimony of their officers is that they behaved with the utmost courage, coolness, and daring. I am perfectly satisfied with my negro cavalry.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON.

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No. 2.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Near Portsmouth, Va., March* 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 9th instant Colonel Cole, commanding Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, made a reconnaissance beyond Suffolk, examining the different roads. A short distance from town the enemy were met in force and a brisk skirmish ensued.

Lieutenant-Colonel Pond, with a portion of the regiment, being on the Somerset road, Colonel Cole with his command held the enemy in check until Colonel Pond's return, which was only done by most obstinate fighting, the enemy using infantry, artillery, and cavalry. After the return of Colonel Pond, finding the enemy in great force, Colonel Cole retired with his command, which he did in good order. As soon as the attack was made on Colonel Cole's command, re-enforcements were immediately sent forward, expecting the enemy would advance, and resolved to fight them at Bowers' Hill, to which point the re-enforcements were sent. The enemy, however, advanced no farther than Bernard's Mills, where they either destroyed or carried off the camp and garrison equipage of the three companies of the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers.

I think the object of the enemy was to capture Cole's cavalry, in which they failed most decidedly. Never did soldiers display more bravery, nor officers more coolness and courage, than that displayed by Colonel Cole's command. Almost entirely surrounded by ten times their number, they fought their way out, losing no prisoners or horses except those that were killed.

Our loss in the engagement was as follows.*

A majority of the missing will doubtless come in, as most of them are men whose horses were shot, and the men ran into the swamp and will find their way in. The loss of the enemy was much greater than ours. The enemy have retired, and the outpost again established at Bernard's Mills. The commanding officer of the enemy's cavalry was killed by Colonel Cole. He fell dead from his horse. The missing men reported above are coming in constantly. The force of the enemy is reported to be Ransom's brigade (five regiments of infantry), two regiments of Clingman's brigade, two regiments of cavalry, and eighteen pieces of artillery.

* Nominal list (omitted) reports 5 men killed, 2 officers and 2 men wounded, and 13 men missing.

Cole's cavalry whipped the enemy in every charge they made, and did not retire until the enemy brought their artillery and infantry into action against him.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Commanding, &c.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Col. George W. Cole, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry.*

BOWERS' HILL, *March* 14, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the return of all the men who took to the swamps when their horses were shot, except 2, as well as 1 (George Ames, Company K) reported killed. I saw his horse blown up by a shell, and he under it, as I supposed, killed. He crawled out and took the swamp, hiding his arms, as did two others when too hard pressed. These arms we can recover.

The list now stands: Six killed and 1 since dead, 2 (Jacob Parker, Company K, and Amos Nelson, Company A) missing, not yet come in. Killed and missing, 8; wounded, 2 officers and 5 men; Lieutenant Van Lew since dead.

From the report of fugitives I am sure I underestimated the rebel loss very much. I am certain that it will exceed 50.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. COLE,
*Colonel Second U. S. Colored Cavalry.*

Brig. Gen. C. A. HECKMAN,
*Commanding, &c.*

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No. 4.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Matthew W. Ransom, C. S. Army.*

PETERSBURG, *March* 10, 1864.

The following dispatch just received:

HEADQUARTERS,
*Suffolk, March* 9, 1864 (via Weldon, 10th).

The enemy occupied Suffolk in force on Sunday. We attacked them to-day, and after a short struggle drove them in a rout out of the town, killing a number, capturing one piece of artillery and a large quantity of commissary and quartermaster's stores. The enemy are flying to Portsmouth, burning bridges and leaving everything behind. We pursued beyond Bernard's Mills. Kilpatrick, Berry, and Heckman are at Portsmouth; if they re-enforce and attack me I shall call on Jordan at Ivor if necessary.

M. W. RANSOM,
*Brigadier-General.*

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

## MARCH 9–12, 1864.—Expedition into King and Queen County, Va.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Isaac J. Wistar, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.
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### No. 1.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

FORT MONROE, *March* 12, 1864.
(Received 4.30 p. m.)

While waiting for transportation I sent a portion of Kilpatrick's cavalry, with a portion of Colonels Onderdonk and Spear's cavalry from my own command, up to King and Queen Court-House, to deal with those citizens who, claiming to be non-combatants when any force of ours is there, yet turned out and ambushed Dahlgren. General Kilpatrick sent forward Colonel Onderdonk's command, who report that the Fifth and Ninth Virginia Cavalry, with citizens, amounting to about 1,200 in all, were driven from their camp near Carlton's Store, their camp taken, a number killed, and 20 taken prisoners. The enemy were also driven from the Court-House, and a large amount of grain and a mill belonging to the Ninth Cavalry, and other store-houses, were burned.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON.

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### No. 2.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Isaac J. Wistar, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Yorktown, Va., March* 13, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report result of expedition to King and Queen Court-House under my command:

I moved with Duncan's brigade and Colonel Kiddoo's Twenty-second Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, about 2,700 men in all, from Yorktown in transports at 2 p. m. on Wednesday, 9th instant, arriving at Sheppard's Landing, after grounding once or twice in York River, at 8.30 p. m. The transports were convoyed and guided by three navy gun-boats, under command of Lieutenant-Commander Babcock, U. S. Navy, who also took positions to cover the landing, and was exceedingly active, careful, and efficient. The wharf was repaired and troops landed immediately, one regiment being pushed out 2 miles to the main road, which is nearly parallel with the river,

and the others bivouacked in line of battle, with pickets covering the flanks. Brigadier-General Kilpatrick had been dispatched with about 700 of my cavalry, and as near as I can estimate (for he made me no report) about 400 of his men, with two sections of Hunt's and one section of Belger's batteries, from Gloucester Point, at 3 a. m. on the 9th, with orders to move by easy stages, and arrive and communicate with me at daylight on the 10th, and not before, at Sheppard's Landing. Major Wetherill with 200 of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, of my command, had returned from near Sheppard's on the 8th, and was followed all the way down, their rear annoyed by small bodies of the rebel cavalry. My object in having my infantry in position in the main road twelve hours before the arrival of the cavalry was to intercept and capture these parties. General Kilpatrick committed the command of the cavalry force to Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, of his command, and went up himself on the gunboat.

On my arrival at Sheppard's I learned that the cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Preston had, contrary to my orders, pushed right through and arrived at that point some four or five hours before me, and were then bivouacked on the main road at the point where I had intended my infantry to intercept the rebel cavalry, retiring before his advance. Of course the rebels fell back without difficulty before them, and we captured none. I had no difficulty in divining also that the movement of our cavalry was by this time well known above. Thinking it possible, however, that the rebels might be strong enough to make a stand at King and Queen Court-House, I directed General Kilpatrick to move with all the cavalry before daylight direct to that place, attack any enemy he might find or hear of there or anywhere within reasonable distance, destroy the court-house and public buildings, and particularly the ferry at Frazier's, and rejoin me at the cross-roads, 6 miles below the Court-House, for which latter place I at the same time pushed with the infantry and artillery to support him.

On arriving at the cross-roads at about 10 a. m., during a severe rain, I found General Kilpatrick and his cavalry at Plymouth, just beyond where he had halted with all his cavalry, sending forward my own cavalry, under Colonel Onderdonk, to execute my orders. Being disappointed in every way, I directed General Kilpatrick to move at once with his own cavalry direct to New Dragon bridge, and to send orders to Colonel Onderdonk to meet him there, and to find or make a crossing and push right on toward Middlesex, camping 10 miles below Saluda the same evening.

Next day, the 11th, he was to explore thoroughly the whole peninsula by detachments on all the roads, and returning rejoin me at Old Dragon bridge, where I would endeavor to have a bridge constructed. The general accordingly moved forward with his force, I following closely with infantry and artillery. Upon arriving within about a mile of New Dragon I met the general returning, who informed me that the rain had raised that river so as to make crossing it impossible, either by fording or bridging, and that he had therefore bivouacked his command. I also encamped, to make a more thorough examination of the ford, which I did at daylight on the 11th by my own personal escort, and by examining all the citizens and negroes I could find. The river was unfordable, and building a bridge would require half a day at least, besides a long corduroy over the swamp.

About daylight on the 11th I received from General Kilpatrick the report on same subject, which I have the honor to insert, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY EXPEDITION,
*March* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General WISTAR,
*Commanding Expedition:*

GENERAL: Colonel Onderdonk and Lieutenant Whitaker, of my staff, have returned. Lieutenant Whitaker reports having met some 15 of the enemy at King and Queen Court-House yesterday. He drove them from the town and destroyed a large amount of government stores, consisting of grain and arms stored at that place. A company of rebel infantry was found stationed opposite Frazier's Ferry. At 2 p. m. Lieutenant Whitaker joined Colonel Onderdonk, who had been sent to attack the enemy at Carlton's Store. The enemy, some 1,200 strong, was found encamped just beyond. The enemy was driven from his camp, his camp destroyed, several of the enemy killed and wounded, and 12 taken prisoners. Colonel Onderdonk pursued the enemy until dark, when orders reached him to return.

I had the honor to report to you yesterday the condition of my command, as well as my objections to further operations in the enemy's country. It will take the best part of a day to repair the bridge: the stream cannot be forded, and with the roads in their present condition my command cannot make a long march. I am ready to move, and await instructions.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

During the night of the 10th and 11th Colonel Onderdonk returned from the Court-House and Carlton's Store. He charged and routed a small force at the former place, and destroyed the court-house, jail, and public buildings, but failed to capture the ferry-boat at Frazier's, it having been removed to the other side of the Mattapony and guarded by a company of rebel infantry, who were, of course, inaccessible. At Carlton's Store Colonel Onderdonk found the Forty-second Battalion and Ninth Virginia Cavalry, with a portion of the Fifth Virginia and some armed citizens, which force is said by prisoners to be about 1,200 strong. He charged, dispersed, and chased, killing, wounding, and capturing a number, till recalled by an order which there reached him from General Kilpatrick.

I have the honor to inclose Colonel Onderdonk's report, and also that of Captain Reynolds, commanding detachment of Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

During the night of the 11th General Kilpatrick sent his aide to me, stating his objections to any further attempts to cross the Dragon, founded on the difficulty of the stream, the jaded state of his horses, the horrible condition of the roads, and the continued rain. I therefore directed him to proceed with the cavalry down to the Old Dragon crossing, and make a thorough reconnaissance of the river, I following with the infantry. Three miles above that point I met a party returning with the following dispatch from him:

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY EXPEDITION,
*March* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General WISTAR:

GENERAL: The river cannot be forded. It will take several hours to bridge it. Two bridges will have to be constructed. But little forage here.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry.*

* Reynolds' report not found.

Friday the river was rapidly rising. I directed him to proceed directly to Yorktown and followed myself with the infantry, the latter arriving, after severe marches through the mud, on the night of the 12th, with one day's rations unexpended. I examined carefully citizens, negroes, and others, and am satisfied the enemy have no force between the Piankatank and the Rappahannock. If, however, it is deemed desirable to visit that section, I respectfully state my judgment that it should be done by landing infantry in boats on the Rappahannock and re-embarking them at the point of the peninsula at a place previously selected for the purpose by a naval reconnaissance; at the same time scouring the country hence to Carlton's Store with cavalry from Gloucester Point. I can do it at any time when desired. The Dragon is a swampy, muddy, and difficult stream almost all the way to its head. It lies in dense woods, with clayey banks, and all the bridges are destroyed. Little or no forage is to be had for some miles from its banks.

My command captured some 50 odd prisoners, more than half of whom were citizens. The latter were generally turned in on the road by the cavalry under General Kilpatrick, without descriptive rolls or statements. The general had departed for Washington before my return, leaving no report for me, and I have no knowledge whatever of the grounds of their detention. I am therefore obliged to forward them without further explanation.

I have the honor to be, major, with great respect, your obedient servant,

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk, First New York Mounted Rifles.*

HEADQUARTERS MOUNTED RIFLES,
*Williamsburg, Va., March* 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Pursuant to orders from the brigadier-general commanding, I have the honor to report the part taken by my command in the late expedition:

At 5.30 p. m. on the 8th instant, by order of Colonel West, I sent to Yorktown all my available men (five troops), the balance being out scouting. At 6 p. m. received orders from Col. S. P. Spear, commanding Cavalry Brigade, to send the men just returned with one day's forage and four days' rations, this comprising the whole regiment under my immediate command. I went with them. On reporting at Yorktown to Colonel Spear, commanding Cavalry Brigade, he placed me in command of the Eleventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry and First New York Mounted Rifles, with orders to report at Gloucester Point with my command to the senior officer commanding the Potomac cavalry. After reporting to him, took up line of march, Mounted Rifles in advance, at 3 a. m. 9th instant, toward Sheppard's warehouse; reached the point at which

the command was ordered to bivouac, within 2 miles of the warehouse, at 5.30 p. m., sending patrols to the river to report the arrival of the gun-boats and transports.

On the 10th, at 4.30 a. m., ordered by General Kilpatrick to take the advance and move toward King and Queen Court-House (the Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry in advance). Within 3 miles of Plymouth the advance guard met the picket of the enemy (1 man); pursued and captured him. Halted at the cross-roads within 7 miles of the Court-House and Carlton's Store, and was directed by General Kilpatrick to attempt the capture of the Forty-second Virginia Battalion Cavalry, encamped near the store; also to burn the court-house, jail, mill, and ferry at King and Queen Court-House. I detailed the Eleventh for the latter duty, with orders to join me at the store. Went myself with the Mounted Rifles to attack the camp; reached the store, captured the mail and a large package of official papers, and learned that the Ninth Virginia Cavalry was, in addition to the Forty-second Battalion, with about 150 citizens, in full force in the vicinity awaiting us. I then halted to await the arrival of the Eleventh, deeming it unsafe to advance with my small force. During this time a citizen named Watson, mounted and armed, was captured by my pickets. He was evidently on picket duty. On the arrival of the Eleventh they again moved forward in the advance. As we approached the camp the rebels retired, until about 3 miles from the store they formed in line with a show of resistance, but fled in disorder when charged by a battalion of the Eleventh. We pursued them 2 miles, capturing 5 and wounding 3; the others dispersed in the woods and formed in our rear at the store. Returning, burned their camp, fine log quarters; moved left in front, met them at the store, from whence they were pursued by the advance guard of the Mounted Rifles about 2 miles toward Saluda, capturing 5 and mortally wounding 1. We would have captured a large number here, their horses being much fatigued, but an aide-de-camp met me at the store, ordering me to move as rapidly as possible on the return route, and I was obliged to recall the charge. The prisoners at first reported the enemy's force at from 1,000 to 1,200, but afterward said there were not more than 500. From information received from contrabands, I have every reason to believe the first statement correct. The store was a tithe depot, and contained about 100 bushels of shelled corn and a large quantity of fodder. After taking what was necessary for my command I set fire to the buildings in which it was stored. Nothing more worthy of note occurred during the return route to Gloucester Point, where we arrived at 6 a. m. on the 12th. I captured during the expedition 20 prisoners. Some of them were turned over to the Potomac cavalry; the balance to the colored infantry. There were no casualties in my command.

Captain Reynolds, commanding Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, and his officers and men are entitled to the highest praise for their gallant conduct in the charge. The Mounted Rifles also behaved with their usual bravery.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. ONDERDONK,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. S. R. REYNOLDS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 4.

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of U. S. forces at Yorktown, Va., for March,* 1864.

*March* 9.—General Kilpatrick's cavalry, with detachments from Colonel Spear's cavalry brigade and parts of Hunt's and Belger's batteries, marched from Gloucester Point toward King and Queen Court-House. The same day the brigade of U. S. colored troops and the Twenty-second Regiment U. S. Colored Troops moved by transports to Sheppard's Landing, on the Mattapony River, where they effected a junction with General Kilpatrick, the whole expedition being under command of General Wistar. The next day the cavalry pushed on to King and Queen Court-House, which was attacked, and a force of rebels, said to be 1,200 strong, routed by 700 of the First New York Mounted Rifles and Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Colonel Onderdonk. The expedition then returned by land.

*March* 12.—General Kilpatrick's cavalry left the district.

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No. 5.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, U. S. Army.*

MARCH 12, 1864—8 a. m.

GENERAL: My cavalry has returned. The people about King and Queen Court-House have been well punished for the murder of Colonel Dahlgren.

Colonel Onderdonk reports that the Fifth and Ninth Virginia Cavalry, with citizens—about 1,200 in all—were driven from their camp near Carlton's Store, the camp burned, several killed and wounded, and some 20 taken prisoners. The enemy was also driven from the Court-House, a large amount of rebel property destroyed, a mill filled with grain belonging to the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, and other buildings containing grain burned. General Wistar will return on Sunday.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

Major-General BUTLER.

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No. 6.

*Report of Col. Richard L. T. Beale, Ninth Virginia Cavalry.*

MARCH 13, 1864.

GENERAL: On Wednesday night at 7 o'clock I was informed the enemy was advancing upon Centreville, in King and Queen County. Under your order Lieutenant Pollard was in King William, and I was forced to rely upon the pickets from Lieutenant-Colonel Robins' command for information of any movements in King and Queen.

About 9 o'clock on Thursday a courier brought a dispatch saying the enemy was advancing rapidly upon two roads. This command was mounted and moved out in ten minutes' time and marched rapidly into King and Queen. My object was to reach a point on the road occupied by the right column of the enemy in advance of them.

To do this I found it necessary to leave the road along which I was moving and make a detour to my right. After my column had left this road, and before the advance guard of 12 men, under Captain Oliver, had followed me, the enemy charged down the road. Oliver retreated at full speed on the road to camp. Upon gaining a point upon the road in advance of the main body I found a large column had followed the charging squadrons, endangering my camp. I moved rapidly over some 8 miles back to a point on the road over which I had marched, 2 miles out from camp. The enemy had pursued Oliver to the Dragon Swamp, 1 mile from that point, and retreated. Pursuit was immediately made and kept up at the trot and gallop for 8 miles, then at a walk for 10 miles farther. On reaching Little Plymouth the column was halted and a reconnoitering party thrown out with the view of making a night attack. They reported to me the fact that 2 miles below Plymouth the cavalry had been joined by several regiments of infantry, and the whole were moving toward a burned bridge over the Dragon. I returned, reaching camp about 12 o'clock at night, after a march of over 50 miles.

Learning the enemy were busily building a bridge at night, I moved Friday morning to Middlesex and remained in front of this point. I learned during the day the enemy had marched at 9 o'clock in the morning to the lower or Old Dragon ford, and during the night that he had abandoned his half-built bridge and the ford and retreated toward Gloucester Point.

Kilpatrick was at Plymouth Thursday. About 3,000 cavalry came up in King and Queen, and over 1,000 remained with or near the infantry, consisting of five regiments, mostly negroes.

A scouting party under Lieut. Cecil Baker was charged and lost 2 wounded and 2 captured; Captain Oliver lost 5; total 9 (3 sergeants and 6 privates). We captured a sergeant and private, and killed or wounded 5 of the enemy.

I will not close this report without noticing the Home Guards of King and Queen, under Captain Todd, which turned out handsomely and remained with me to Plymouth. Several members of the Essex Guard were also out and part of a company from Lieutenant-Colonel Robins' command, under Lieutenant Dew. Both to Captain Todd and Lieutenant Dew I am debtor for very valuable assistance as guides in extricating my command from a critical position.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

R. L. T. BEALE,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Major-General LEE.

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**MARCH 9–22, 1864.—Expedition to the Piankatank and skirmish at Cricket Hill, Va.**

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham, U. S. Army, commanding Naval Brigade.*

MATHEWS COURT-HOUSE,
*March* 20, 1864—2 a. m.

Everything goes on well. One captain and 10 privates have been captured, a valuable steam saw-mill removed, quite a number of

horses and oxen seized, and about 100 contrabands placed on board transports. The cavalry and section of artillery have returned to Yorktown, but, as I intend going elsewhere, the infantry will probably not return before Monday.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe.*

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[MARCH 22, 1864]—10.30 p. m.

The Brewster and Jesup have just returned from the Piankatank; saw nothing of General Wistar.

Captain McLaughlin landed with his detachment at Cricket Hill, and had an engagement with a superior force of the enemy. He retired under the fire of the gun-boats without sustaining any loss, and inflicting some loss on the enemy. The boats cruised up the Piankatank and the creeks running into it and captured a schooner with a rebel mail and 66 boxes of tobacco; the schooner sunk off York River while being towed. They likewise brought upward of 40 contrabands and 2 prisoners, the crew of the schooner.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe.*

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**MARCH 10, 1864.—Skirmishes near Charlestown and at Kabletown, W. Va.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Col. Robert F. Taylor, First New York Veteran Cavalry, commanding brigade.

No. 3.—Lieut. Col. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion, including operations to May 1.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, U. S. Army.*

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *March* 10, 1864.

In the pursuit of the rebels this morning I regret to announce to you the death of Major Sullivan, First New York Veteran Cavalry. He gallantly pursued the rebels, and although his force was greatly inferior, he drove them to Kabletown, where in a desperate charge he lost his life. My loss to-day will be 4 killed, 5 wounded, 4 prisoners. I am glad to be able to announce that the two officers in charge of pickets are prisoners. Written report will be sent by to-morrow's mail.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland.*

No. 2.

*Report of Col. Robert F. Taylor, First New York Veteran Cavalry, commanding brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Halltown, Va., March* 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that our pickets were attacked between Charlestown, Va., and the river, at the crossing of the Keys' Ferry and Kabletown roads, yesterday morning at 6 o'clock, by what is supposed to be a portion of Mosby's command, numbering from 40 to 80 men. The force passed to the left of the vedette, on the Kabletown road, seen by them, but supposed to be a reserve from Charlestown, they being dressed in our uniform. The mistake was not discovered until the rebels had obtained a position and fired a volley into the reserve at less than 10 rods distant, completely surprising them. The loss at the reserve post is 1 killed and 4 wounded, and 2 lieutenants and 11 privates missing.

After the attack they retreated with great rapidity by the way of Kabletown, recrossing at Sampson's Ford, about 3 miles this side of Snicker's Ferry, except small parties, which went to the right below Kabletown, crossing near and at Snicker's Ferry. Major Sullivan, commanding picket, pursued the enemy with 9 men, overtaking them at Kabletown; found them concealed behind an old building, from which they fired a volley, killing Major Sullivan and 2 privates, and severely wounding Lieutenant Baker, all of the First [New York] Veteran Cavalry. The balance of the reserve, under Lieutenant Conway, numbering about 50 men, came up a few moments after, but failed to overtake the enemy. The firing was distinctly heard at this place, and the entire force ordered out. Lieutenant Wyckoff, with 15 men, got to the ford just as they had succeeded in crossing. Anticipating an attack, I sent Lieutenant Wyckoff to Charlestown on the evening of March 9, informing Major Sullivan of the probability of an attack, ordering him to strengthen his pickets and order them to keep on the alert, which I learn he did. I also informed him that I had 150 men in readiness to re-enforce him at any moment. I learn that there were a number of shots fired by the vedette at the post attacked between the hour of 3 and the time of the attack.

I forbear to express an opinion as to where the blame should attach until I can further investigate the matter.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Lieut. Col. John S. Mosby, Forty-third Virginia Cavalry Battalion, including operations to May* 1.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the commanding general, the following brief report of the operations of this command since the 1st day March last·

On March 10,* with a detachment of about 40 men, I defeated a

*March 9. See p. 236.

superior force of the enemy's cavalry near Greenwich, severely wounding 3, and capturing 9 prisoners, 10 horses, arms, &c. On the same day Lieut. A. E. Richards, with another detachment of about 30 men, surprised an outpost of the enemy near Charlestown, killed the major commanding and a lieutenant, several privates, and brought off 21 prisoners with their horses, arms, &c. In neither engagement did my command sustain any loss.

During the months of March and April but few opportunities were offered for making any successful attacks on the enemy, the continual annoyances to which they had been subjected during the winter causing them to exert great vigilance in guarding against surprises and interruptions of their communications. During most of these months I was myself engaged in scouting in the enemy's rear for Major-General Stuart and collecting information, which was regularly transmitted to his headquarters, concerning the movements, numbers, and distribution of the enemy's forces both east and west of the Blue Ridge. During this time my men were mostly employed in collecting forage from the country bordering on the Potomac.

About April 15 Captain Richards routed a marauding party of the enemy's cavalry at Waterford, killing and wounding 5 or 6, and bringing off 6 or 8 prisoners, 15 horses, arms, &c.

About April 25 I attacked an outpost near Hunter's Mills, in Fairfax, capturing 5 prisoners and 18 horses. The prisoners and horses were sent back under charge of Lieutenant Hunter, while I went off on a scout in another direction. The enemy pursued and captured the lieutenant and 6 of the horses.

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I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. MOSBY,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieutenant-Colonel TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*September* 19, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant and Inspector General, for the information of the Department.

Attention is invited to the activity and skill of Colonel Mosby, and the intelligence and courage of the officers and men of his command, as displayed in this report. With the loss of little more than 20 men, he has killed, wounded, and captured during the period embraced in the report about 1,200 of the enemy, and taken more than 1,600 horses and mules, 230 beef-cattle, and 85 wagons and ambulances, without counting many smaller operations. The services rendered by Colonel Mosby and his command in watching and reporting the enemy's movements have also been of great value. His operations have been highly creditable to himself and his command.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

**MARCH 16, 1864.—Affair near Annandale, Va.**

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Robert O. Tyler, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, *March* 16, 1864.

A small party of guerrillas picked up some cavalry stragglers from Kilpatrick's command below Annandale this morning. They were held by a guard of 2 men, whom they report that they killed, and have made their escape.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff, Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, *March* 16, 1864.

I have the honor to report all quiet. I sent out a party to the vicinity of Mason's Hill to ascertain about the shooting of the 2 guerrillas. One of them was shot by a corporal from Fort Albany and the other one by our news-agent. The bodies were taken by Lieutenant Shepard, provost-marshal at Fort Albany, to the fort.

Respectfully,

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff, Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 16-18, 1864.—Scout in Cabell and Wayne Counties, W. Va.**

*Report of Maj. John J. Hoffman, Second West Virginia Cavalry.*

HDQRS. SECOND VIRGINIA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
*Camp Toland, W. Va., March* 21, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order of March 16, I took six companies of my command (220 men) and marched to the mouth of Coal River, which I reached late in the evening, and finding that it would require several hours to cross I encamped on this side.

The next day, 17th, I reached Barboursville about 3 p. m., and reported to Colonel Brown, Thirteenth Virginia, who ordered me to cross the river at Guyandotte and camp at the first suitable place, and I camped on the Buffington farm, 3 miles below town. Then I was ordered to proceed to Trout's Hill (Wayne Court-House), and at some point on the route would meet Colonel Brown's command, which was to cross at the falls of Guyandotte.

At 3 a. m. the 18th instant I received a message from Colonel Brown, stating that he had heard of a squad of 30 or 40 men crossing the river below the falls and traveling toward the Ohio River in the direction of Winfield, and that he would pursue them and not co-operate with me. I reached Trout's Hill at 1 p. m. the 18th instant, in the vicinity of which was reported 400 of the Eighth and a part of the Sixteenth Virginia (rebel) Cavalry. There was no force at the

town, nor had there been any there or in Wayne County since the Sixteenth Virginia was routed by Colonel Gallup from Louisa, Ky. I returned that evening to the Buffington farm, having traveled 40 miles. The force reported under Colonel French as marching down Guyandotte was not heard of either by Colonel Brown or myself, and we were both satisfied that there is no organized force in that region. There is in Wayne and Cabell Counties a considerable number of the Eighth and Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry at home on furlough, but so scattered through the hills that it is almost impossible to capture them with a mounted force, but can be effected much easier with small squads of infantry who are acquainted with the country and the residences of the men.

There is but little forage or subsistence from here to Guyandotte, and from there to Trout Hill there is none that I saw. The roads are in very good condition, and we traveled without any difficulty. I brought in 2 horses and 1 mule, neither of much value, and took these only to replace broken-down horses. The weather was good, and the men and horses reached camp in very good condition.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. J. HOFFMAN,
*Major, Commanding Cavalry.*

Lieut. E. W. CLARK, Jr.,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 16–18, 1864.—Reconnaissance toward Snicker's Gap, Va.**

*Report of Maj. Henry Peale, Eighteenth Connecticut Infantry.*

HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
*Harper's Ferry, Va., March 20, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to represent that on the morning of the 16th instant, in obedience to orders from headquarters First Division, Department of West Virginia, I started with 3 officers and 150 men of the Eighteenth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, with five days' rations, for the purpose of reconnoitering the country in the neighborhood of Snicker's Gap, and also to arrest, if possible, the rebel conscription which was understood to be in process of enforcement in that section by removing the material for such conscription, and lastly to take possession for Government purposes of the cattle of all citizens so seized.

I reached the gap on the morning of the 17th instant, and marched on the pike until within a mile of Snickersville, when the main portion of the battalion was halted with instructions to avail itself of all advantages of concealment by the windings of the road, &c. In company with the officers above referred to, and with a squad of 10 men, I proceeded on the Alexandria pike to a point 3 miles beyond Snickersville, halting and examining every man on the road as well as citizens at their houses. From the unanimity of their statements I was convinced not only that the conscription parties were not there in the neighborhood, but that they had completed their work one week before, and had been ordered back to the main army under Lee. It was ascertained that they were composed of detachments of the Sixth Virginia Infantry, temporarily disbanded for foraging and recruiting purposes.

No armed rebels were visible during our stay unless one or two suspicious-looking horsemen who appeared at a distance, and who fled on perceiving us, were such. Late in the afternoon I rejoined the battalion and marched on the summit of the Blue Ridge until within 3 miles of Ashby's Gap, but as I found no water, and deeming it unsafe to encamp in the valley, I returned on the same evening to the gap, and posted the command on a hill to the north of and within a short distance of the pike. During the night two campfires were visible to the southwest of the pike, and between 1 and 2 miles distant. Horsemen, one at a time, were also heard at intervals on the road. The pickets were doubled, but nothing further of importance occurred.

In the morning a party was sent to the town after forage, and learned that a few of Mosby's men had made their appearance a few minutes after our departure the previous afternoon and made many inquiries as to our numbers, &c.

During the greater part of the 18th the roads about the gap were traversed by small parties under non-commissioned officers, and the position of affairs at Snicker's Ferry ascertained. In the latter part of same day, the rations becoming low, I started on the return, taking the path on the east side of the ridge. The command marched to a point abreast of Purcellville and then crossed to the west side of the mountain and camped at a place of one or two houses known as Valley View. Here we found detachment of 2 officers and 25 men of the One hundred and thirty-ninth [?] New York.

On the 19th, after impressing from the inhabitants one-half day's rations of corn-meal and bacon, I started for this place, reaching here at 9 p. m.

The information obtained may be summed up as follows, viz: First, the absence of all conscripting detachments from the sections of country embraced in a radius of 10 miles from Snicker's Gap; second, the presence of numerous guerrillas in the region about Upperville and Paris; third, the poverty of the inhabitants on either side of the ridge as to cattle and the necessaries of life, with the exception of corn-meal and bacon, of which they appear to have an abundance; fourth, the thoroughly rebel character of nine-tenths of such inhabitants. Had the command carried a supply of rations for five days (a matter which will receive strict attention in future), other and more tangible results might have been attained. The command during the four days marched between 70 and 80 miles.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY PEALE,
*Major, Comdg. Eighteenth Connecticut Volunteers.*

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 17-18, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Sperryville, Va.**

*Report of Col. Thomas C. Devin, Sixth New York Cavalry, commanding brigade.*

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 18, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with instructions from division headquarters to reconnoiter the front, I

ordered Lieutenant Cating, of my staff, with an escort of 25 men of Sixth and Ninth New York, under command of Captain Goodrich, Ninth New York, to proceed to the vicinity of Woodville and ascertain whether any force of the enemy was moving in our front, and if opportunity offered upon his return to beat up some of the bushwhackers in that neighborhood.

The party started last night at 10 o'clock, passed through Woodville at 3 a. m., and reached Sperryville before daylight without opposition. Learning that a rebel major who was conscripting in that vicinity was at his house in the mountains north of Sperryville, Lieutenant Cating impressed a guide, proceeded to and surrounded the house, and captured the officer (Major Swindler, Seventh Virginia Infantry) and 2 men.

The rebel cavalry continually harassed the party on their return by skirmishing on their front and flanks, but had not time to gather in sufficient force to inflict any damage. The party returned to camp without loss at 11 a. m. this day, having ridden 46 miles. There has been no movement of the enemy in front on this side of the ridge. Imboden and Jones are said to be in the valley some 15 miles from Sperryville. There are about 200 cavalry between this point and Sperryville. The roads are tolerably good. The bridges on the Sperryville pike were torn up to check the party on their return.

I have ordered the prisoners to be forwarded to division headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. C. DEVIN,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

Capt. GEORGE P. SANFORD,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 17-21, 1864.—Expedition from Yorktown into Mathews and Middlesex Counties, Va.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Samuel A. Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding brigade.
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. George Rogers, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops.

No. 1.

*Report of Samuel A. Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
*Yorktown, Va., March* 31, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward herewith the reports made by Colonel Ames,* Sixth U. S. Colored Troops, and Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, of the part taken by those regiments, respectively, in the recent expedition to Mathews and Middlesex Counties, Va.

* Not found.

Allow me to call particular attention to the concluding paragraphs of these reports, setting forth the effect upon discipline in those regiments, naturally incident to the execution of orders that necessarily divided them into small detachments, under charge of non-commissioned officers, in an enemy's country and for purposes that offered peculiar temptations—a demoralization which I feel certain was as much regretted by the commandants of those regiments as they were powerless to prevent it. I trust that it is needless to add that the regret expressed by those officers that it should have been found necessary to employ their regiments on an expedition of such a character is fully shared by the colonel commanding the brigade, who, were it not that the soldier should have no choice of his own, would express the hope that the troops under his command may, so far as practicable, be employed in the more legitimate methods of warfare.

I have the honor to remain, with much respect, your obedient servant,

SAM'L A. DUNCAN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. STEPHEN R. REYNOLDS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Yorktown, April* 1, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The remarks made by Colonel Duncan, Colonel Ames, and Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers on the demoralizing consequences of general license to plunder private property not contraband of war are peculiarly applicable to colored troops, who, according to my observation, especially require to be held with a firm hand in order to get from them the full duty of soldiers. These are all most valuable and judicious officers, and their observations on this subject I think will be understood and appreciated by the major-general commanding.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. George Rogers, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops.*

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
*Yorktown, Va., March* 29, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, by the order of Col. S. A. Duncan, this regiment embarked on board the transport vessel Convoy, at the wharf at Yorktown, on the afternoon of the 17th instant, and that immediately thereafter we received an order from General Graham to follow his boat when it should put out.

At 5 p. m. the fleet of transports and gun-boats, of which the Convoy formed a part, got under way, and at 12 p. m. reached a landing on the Piankatank River 8 miles from Mathews' Court-House. I at once disembarked the regiment, formed a line on the beach, threw out a chain of sentinels to cover the battalion, and awaited orders.

At 3.30 a. m. we received orders from Colonel Ames, Sixth U. S. Colored Troops, to—

> March with all possible dispatch to Mathews' Court-House, occupy the place, detail a captain and his company for provost duty, seize all suspicious characters, and take such private property as might be useful to contrabands, and to prevent any plundering by the men.

As no officer near could inform me of the direction in which the Court-House lay, nor how far we were from any road, some time was lost in searching for a house at which to procure a guide. A farm-house being finally discovered, I sent a detachment under Captain Wickes to search the premises for a guide. Some time elapsing without hearing from the captain, I sent another party under Major Boernstein to assist in the search and hasten the procuring of a guide. Shortly afterward, hearing four shots in the direction of the house, I sent forward a company to re-enforce the party under Major Boernstein, and riding up toward the house I met Captain Wickes returning with a prisoner, a member of the Fifth Virginia Cavalry, whom Major Boernstein had captured in the house. Another person in the house at the time, supposed to be a major of the Fifth Virginia Cavalry, succeeded in making his escape. The shots mentioned above were fired by a party of rebels, who came near the house and called for the prisoners. After discharging their pieces they rode off. No further sign of the enemy appearing, and getting what information was necessary from the prisoner, we immediately started for the Court-House and arrived there at sunrise. I found that a company of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry had occupied the place a couple of hours previous to our arrival. A few members of the Fifth Virginia Cavalry were started, but all managed to effect their escape.

At 10 a. m. General Graham arrived, and on reporting to him I was referred to Colonel Ames for orders, and was by him ordered to take the Fourth out on the Gloucester road about 2 miles, to a point where the head of the East River almost touches the road, and to throw a line of sentinels from that point across the peninsula to an estuary of the Piankatank, a distance of nearly 3 miles, "to pick up any enemy or other person who might attempt to escape the cavalry who were engaged in scouring the country below, to assist in getting to the boats any persons of color or other refugees who might wish to go within our lines, to seize such property as might be useful to contrabands, and prevent plundering by the command." These orders, with the exception of that relating to the prevention of plundering, were executed. Our line being a very long one, and the regiment consequently being greatly dispersed, and the order to search for and seize property necessitating the separation to a considerable extent of officers from the men, and, more than all, the fact that the men began to consider the expedition a kind of plundering foray, rendered it almost impossible to execute this order while carrying out the letter of the others.

At 10 p. m. of the 19th we received orders to be in readiness to march at 12 p. m. At the prescribed hour the regiment assembled on the road leading to the landing, and at 4 a. m. of the 20th, the general having arrived, we started for the boats. Arrived at the boats, we embarked and proceeded up the river to Jones' Landing, on the Piankatank, where we again disembarked and marched to New Market, in Middlesex County, a distance of 7 miles, where we arrived at 6 p. m. Several companies were here detailed for picket

duty, and in the morning the remaining companies of the regiment were sent off in different directions to search for and seize property. By this time the tendency of the expedition to demoralize the men of the regiment had grown so strong that I felt called upon to take extreme measures to arrest it. I accordingly ordered an inspection of the camp and collected all articles which the men had plundered from the citizens. The result was a motley collection of all kinds of fowl (dead and alive), fresh and cured meats, and a promiscuous heap of all of the smaller appliances of the culinary art, together with cloths, linens, ornaments of dress, and little objects of vertu. By this time some companies had returned to camp, and I immediately issued an order and published it to officers as fast as they could be found to prevent plundering by the men at all hazards, and to shoot on the spot any enlisted man who disobeyed an order to refrain from or cease plundering. Shortly after Lieutenant Holcombe, Company E, having occasion to order a man of his company to leave an inclosure where he was engaged in plundering and rejoin his company was disobeyed by the man, whereupon he ordered one of his men to shoot him. The order was promptly obeyed and in the best faith, the ball taking effect in the right shoulder of the man. The wound, however, has not proved fatal. This was a most fortunate occurrence, and went a great way toward restoring the discipline of the regiment.

At 4 p. m. we embarked on board of the transports Thomas A. Morgan and Champion, and reached Yorktown at 9 p. m. After arriving in camp it was discovered that Samuel Johnson, Company C, had, while we were at New Market, fallen into the hands of the enemy.

I cannot close this report without the remark that whatever the object of the expedition, it was a misfortune that it produced a very demoralizing effect on this command. It is to be regretted that it is one of the effects of such an expedition to destroy in a week that discipline which it is the work of months to establish.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. ROGERS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. MARCELLUS BAILEY,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**MARCH 19, 1864.—Scout to Salem and Orleans, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. David McM. Gregg, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Cavalry Corps.*

WARRENTON, *March* 19, 1864.

Scouting parties sent to-day to Salem and Orleans. At Salem found a band of Mosby's; captured a lieutenant. At Orleans captured a sergeant of Gilmor's band. No information from the sergeant, save that Rosser's command had left the Valley. Command returned from Hartwood Church; Mrs. Monroe brought in as a prisoner, and her house burned. No rebels seen.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps.*

## MARCH 25-26, 1864.—Expedition to Bogue and Bear Inlets, N. C.

### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. James Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding expedition.

No. 2.—Congratulatory orders from Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.

### No. 1.

*Report of Col. James Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding expedition.*

MOREHEAD CITY, *March* 26, 1864.

I have the honor to report my arrival at this place. Failed to accomplish the entire object of the expedition, in consequence of the non-reliability of guides and the fearful gale which prevailed. Captured about 20 contrabands and burned one schooner, which recently arrived from Bermuda; captured several horses, but were unable to take them away. In attempting to land at Swansborough were fired upon, and in consequence of low tide could not effect a landing without heavy loss; killed and wounded a number of the enemy. Three of my boats swamped in the breakers; men all saved except 1 man (colored). Will report in full on Monday.

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Major-General PECK.

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### No. 2.

*Congratulatory orders from Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 57. } HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N. C., April* 8, 1864.

The commanding general has the satisfaction of announcing another expedition against the enemy, in which both the military and naval forces of North Carolina took part, sharing the honors equally.

On the 25th ultimo Col. J. Jourdan, commander of the Sub-district of Beaufort, with 200 men of the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteer Infantry, embarked on board the U. S. gun-boat Britannia, Lieutenant Huse commanding, and steamed for Bogue and Bear Inlets, for the purpose of capturing two of the enemy's vessels engaged in contraband trade, and also a body of cavalry reported to be at Swansborough.

Nearing the inlets, a portion of the command was transferred to small boats, and an effort made to effect a landing and move on Swansborough. All night long in the breakers and storm these little boats, with their patient crews, were tossed about. Several crafts in the violence of the gale were dashed in pieces, but through the energetic exertions of Colonel Jourdan himself and others no lives were lost, although one officer, Captain David, of the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers, was seriously injured.

In the morning the storm abated, and another attempt was made.

As the boats moved up, instead of seeing the expected cavalry, they were saluted by heavy volleys of musketry from the river bank. The enemy proving too strong, the party was obliged to return to the vessel. At the same time Lieutenant King, of Colonel Jourdan's staff, with a body of men in boats, moved up Bear Inlet. He found and burned one of the vessels sought, together with its cargo of salt and leather. He returned to the gun-boat, bringing with him 43 negro refugees. The whole expedition arrived at Beaufort on the morning of the 26th ultimo, without the loss of a man.

Great credit is due Colonel Jourdan and the officers and men of his command, together with the officers and men of the Navy, for the efficient service performed. The commanding general tenders his thanks especially to Colonel Jourdan, Captain Cuff, and Lieutenant King, of the Army, and to Commodore Dove and Lieutenants Huse and Cony, of the Navy.

By command of Maj. Gen. John J. Peck:

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 26, 1864.—Skirmish near Black Jack Church, N. C.**

*Congratulatory order from Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 49. HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N. C., April* 1, 1864.

The commanding general is again called upon to acknowledge the gallantry and efficiency of his troops.

On the 26th ultimo Brigadier-General Harland, commanding the Sub-district of the Pamlico, sent Capt. G. W. Graham, commandant of the cavalry troops of the First North Carolina Union Volunteers, upon a reconnaissance toward Greenville. The movement was executed with the utmost rapidity and secrecy, and resulted in the complete surprise of the enemy's pickets and reserve at and near Black Jack Church, with a loss on the part of the enemy of 1 officer and 8 men killed and several wounded, besides prisoners, while our loss was but a few horses wounded. The whole affair was conducted with that dash so characteristic of the true cavalry soldier, and reflects great credit upon that arm of the service and upon the officers and men engaged.

By command of Maj. Gen. John J. Peck:

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 28, 1864.—Scout in Gloucester County, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Isaac J. Wistar, U. S. Army.*

YORKTOWN, *March* 29, 1864.

A reconnaissance sent through Gloucester yesterday to ascertain the truth of alleged rebel designs to capture oyster schooners has

just returned, with 1 prisoner and 2 horses of Fifth Virginia Cavalry. The reports are not true. The prisoner's regiment is ordered to reassemble at Orange Court-House, April 1, and nearly all have gone. Roads bad.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General BUTLER.

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**MARCH 28–29, 1864.—Scout to Aldie and Middleburg, Va.**

*Report of Col. Joseph W. Fisher, Fifth Pennsylvania Reserves.*

HDQRS. 3D BRIG., PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE CORPS,
*March* 30, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the result of a somewhat extensive scout from which I returned last night, and in making this report I attach no importance to the scout itself beyond information obtained, which I think of some importance to the Army of the Potomac and the Government.

I left my headquarters at 10 p. m. of Monday, 28th instant, with 225 men of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, under the command of Major McCabe, crossing the Bull Run battle-field, striking the Alexandria and Warrenton turnpike about 1½ miles east of Groveton. Passing up the pike to Groveton I took the road to Sudley Mills, and from thence direct to Aldie, which place I reached at 5 a. m. of the 29th. I made careful searches of all the houses and other buildings where I thought guerrillas might be concealed. At Aldie I obtained some important information as to the extent of Colonel Mosby's command, and also to his location. I then pushed rapidly forward to Middleburg, where I had previously learned Mosby had his advance, but before we reached that point the enemy had retired. Not deeming it safe to go farther through those mountain passes with my small command (having learned from undoubted authority that Mosby had nearly three times my number), I returned to Aldie and rested my command for some time. I had not been long at the latter place until my pickets reported the enemy advancing in considerable force and attempting to surround and cut us off. I at once started with one company of cavalry back the turnpike in the direction of Middleburg, driving the enemy before me until they reached a hill 2 miles beyond Aldie, where they were in considerable force. My pickets reported to me at this point that two columns of the enemy were marching down on my right flank, evidently with the intention of getting into my rear. I endeavored to bring those in my front to a fight but failed to do so, except by the exchange of a few shots, none of which took effect so far as I know, and as I advanced they fell back, probably trying to lead me into an ambush. I then withdrew, following down the Little River turnpike until I struck the Sudley road, and from thence back to my headquarters, which I reached at 5 p. m. of yesterday after a march of 65 to 75 miles. From all I have learned I have come to the conclusion that we have not sufficient cavalry force attached to the division to drive Mosby out of the country, but that a simultaneous movement from Bristoe or Manassas and Warrenton would effect that object.

The officers and men of the cavalry, and other officers who accompanied me, behaved very well and have my thanks for the promptness with which they executed my commands.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. FISHER,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

Lieut. WILLIAM A. HOYT,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 2, 1864.—Destruction of Cape Lookout Light, N. C.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Report of Brig. Gen. Montgomery D. Corse, C. S. Army.
No. 2.—Report of Col. John N. Whitford, Sixty-seventh North Carolina Infantry.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Montgomery D. Corse, C. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*April* 20, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjt. and Insp. Gen. C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward report of General Corse concerning the destruction of the Cape Lookout light-houses. The men engaged in it are certainly entitled to great praise, if not reward.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS,
*Kinston, N. C., April* 12, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to hand the report of the destruction of the light-houses at Cape Lookout. One, the lower, about 90 feet high, was destroyed. The other was badly damaged. That was 160 feet high ,with walls 10 feet thick, and owing to the inferior quality of the powder was not entirely destroyed. The walls, however, are much injured—cracked and bulged out. All the oil, &c., was destroyed, and the steps for 10 feet. The affair reflects credit upon the parties who participated in it. The inconvenience to the enemy from the temporary loss of so important a landmark on that dangerous coast must be seriously felt.

Very respectfully,

M. D. CORSE,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. C. PICKETT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

*Report of Col. John N. Whitford, Sixty-seventh North Carolina Infantry.*

APRIL 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that a courier has just arrived, bringing the following dispatch from L. C. Harland, in charge of the secret expedition sent some days since to destroy the light-house on Cape Lookout:

SMITH'S CREEK, N. C.,
*April* 9, 1864.

Col. J. N. WHITFORD:

DEAR SIR: We have destroyed both light-houses at Cape Lookout (on Sunday night), so that they never can be repaired again. We heard from Beaufort before leaving. They had 200 men in search of us. Two large steamers were on the hook of the cape to guard against Captain Semmes, as they have been expecting him to do the same work for the last two months. I have several trophies for you, and will proceed to camp to-morrow. The boys acted well, but cannot travel much, as their feet are badly bruised. We landed on this side of the river last night at 10 o'clock. The Yankees are expecting our armies to attack New Berne every day. No other news of importance.

L. C. HARLAND,
*In Charge of Expedition.*

All the men of the expedition were of my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. N. WHITFORD,
*Colonel, Commanding Regiment.*

Capt. P. B. HOOE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 5, 1864.—Affair near Blount's Creek, N. C.**

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Abstract from Record of Events on return of Sub-district of the Pamlico, for April, 1864.

No. 2.—Congratulatory order from Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.

No. 1.

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of Sub-district of the Pamlico, for April,* 1864.

*April 5.*—Captain Clay, Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Captain Stanton, Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, with a party of men from the garrison at Hill's Point, surprised and captured near Blount's Creek Lieutenant Taylor and 6 men of the Sixty-seventh North Carolina (Whitford's battalion).

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No. 2.

*Congratulatory order from Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 55. HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C.,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 7, 1864.

The general commanding the Sub-district of the Pamlico reports that on the 2d [5th] instant Captain Clay, of the Fifty-eighth Penn-

sylvania Volunteers, with a small party, had a collision with the enemy near Hill's Point, with a result very creditable to the Union arms. Lieutenant Taylor and 5 of Whitford's regiment were taken prisoners. Captain Stanton, of the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, is favorably mentioned for his good conduct in this affair.

By command of Maj. Gen. John J. Peck:

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 8, 1864.—Skirmish at Winchester, Va.**

*Report of Maj. Hanson W. Hunter, Sixth West Virginia Cavalry.*

HDQRS. SIXTH REGIMENT WEST VIRGINIA CAVALRY,
*Martinsburg, Va., April 9, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have to report that, in obedience to instructions received from headquarters Cavalry Division, Department of West Virginia, on the 7th instant, I proceeded to the picket-line and collected 107 of the Sixth and Seventh West Virginia Cavalry, just relieved from picket duty, and 44 of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. I left Gerrardstown at 2.30 p. m., and went via Pughtown, coming on the Romney pike, 9 miles west of Winchester; thence by Romney pike to the road leading out on Timber Ridge.

I went out on Timber Ridge 8 miles, to Shiloh Church, and learned from citizens that there were no rebels near there; that there were some (about two companies) around and about Capon Springs and Wardensville. Capon River was reported to be too high to be forded. I then started on my return by Romney pike; thence to Winchester. When within 4 miles of Winchester I learned that about 100 rebels had crossed the Romney pike about a mile west of Winchester, going in the direction of Martinsburg. I afterwards found that they had come round and were in town feeding. I charged into town as they were leaving, my advance following and skirmishing with them for a mile south of town. I found out there were more rebels out on the Strasburg road. I brought my command back through town, leaving the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Captain Crawford, to watch the movements of the rebels at the south end of town. In a half an hour I ordered Captain Crawford to retire and bring all the men out of town. He sent me notice that he thought they were endeavoring to flank us. When Captain Crawford's rear guard was about the center of town I discovered the rebels following him in strong force. I commenced to move my command out to take position; at the same time ordered Captain Crawford to hold the rebel advance in check, but the advance of the rebels was so rapid and spirited that his men could not check them, and his men were forced onto the main body of my command before I could form them. The rebels continued to follow close for about 3 miles. I succeeded in forming my men about 5 miles this side of Winchester, and remained there a short time. I had some apprehensions that they were again trying to flank us. I then fell back slowly. I brought my command into camp about 9 p. m. of the 8th instant.

The casualties are as follows: Seventh Regiment West Virginia

Cavalry, 4 taken prisoners; Sixth Regiment West Virginia Cavalry, 18 men and 1 officer—Lieutenant Medera.

The Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry were left on the picket post. I have not received a list of men missing in that detachment.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HUNTER,
*Major Sixth Regt. West Virginia Cav., Comdg. Detachment.*

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, April* 10, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, with inclosed Special Orders, No. 23, and orders to Major Hunter, which will explain the matter fully.

I request that Maj. H. W. Hunter be dishonorably dismissed the service.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY, DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, April* 14, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters.

The inclosed report of Captain Martindale, being made up from what he heard other people say and not from what he actually knew, does not seem sufficient to warrant the dishonorable dismissal of Major Hunter. It is recommended that charges be preferred, and he (Major Hunter) be brought before general court-martial for trial.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General, Chief of Cavalry.*

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 20, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

Brigadier-General Averell has been instructed to cause charges to be preferred against Major Hunter, preparatory to his trial by general court-martial.*

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 23. HDQRS. CAV. DIV., DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., April* 10, 1864.

On the 7th instant 107 men of the Sixth and Seventh West Virginia Cavalry and 44 men of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, in all 151 men, were sent out under the command of Major Hunter, Sixth West Virginia Cavalry, to capture or destroy two companies of rebels, which were prowling about our lines and supposed to be about 100 strong.

After a short scout the force under Major Hunter came upon the rebels in the town of Winchester, on the 8th instant, feeding their horses and in promising condition to be surprised. The rebels, how-

* Major Hunter was discharged upon expiration of service, August 18, 1864.

ever, escaped, and were followed a mile beyond the town, when the attack was abandoned and our men brought back to the north side of the town, when the commanding officer left them to enter a house, where he remained for some time, without having taken any precaution against surprise, except leaving the detachment of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry as a rear guard. The enemy, availing himself of the carelessness and utter want of common sense displayed by the commander of our force, charged upon the rear guard and threw it upon the main body, which, already in disorder, was quickly thrown into confusion, and 27 men were lost in the disgraceful and dastardly flight of 151 men before less than 100 rebels. The numbers of the enemy, it has been ascertained from various persons who counted them, were less than 100. The Union women who witnessed the affair wept for shame.

The brigadier-general commanding entertains the impression that the men who were sent out on the expedition would have done better without a commanding officer. It is very seldom that so fine an opportunity is offered to our troops to distinguish themselves, but instead of distinction this occasion furnished disgrace and disaster. The brigadier-general commanding firmly believes that the 27 men who were lost to the enemy, had they been properly led by a cool and intrepid officer, could have beaten the enemy. He can find no words to express his shame and mortification. The commanding officer seemed to forget the object of his expedition at the very moment he could have attained it, and then was incompetent to return without additional disgrace.

Major Hunter is hereby placed in arrest, and will be recommended for dishonorable dismissal from the service.

By command of Brig. Gen. W. W. Averell:

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, April 7*, 1864.

Maj. H. W. HUNTER,
*Sixth West Virginia Cavalry:*

MAJOR: The general commanding desires you to take 150 men from those at the picket-line and proceed up the Back Creek Valley, striking the Romney road at a point west of the junction with the road which runs down Capon Springs. You will endeavor to surprise and capture or disperse a body of the enemy said to be lying near Concord Church, on Timber Ridge.

Having accomplished this object you will return down the Romney pike to Winchester, and thence to this place. Any important information you may get will be sent in at once by couriers.

You are at liberty to take 50 of your 150 men from the picket which went out this morning.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

P. S.—You will return to-morrow.

By order:

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

MARTINSBURG, *April* 10, 1864.

[Capt. WILL RUMSEY:]

CAPTAIN: According to orders from General Averell, bearing date of April 8, instant, I left Martinsburg about 10 o'clock in the evening, moved leisurely in the direction of Winchester, arriving there about daylight. Sent my advance guards through the town briskly. Finding no enemy, I moved in the direction of Newtown. On the way to Newtown I met a lady from Strasburg; she told me that a party of rebel soldiers, numbering from 90 to 100 men, were encamped one-half mile this side of Middletown; had come from Winchester, fetching with them 27 Federal prisoners. They left Middletown about 5.30 o'clock the next morning. They left Middletown about the time I arrived in Winchester. After arriving at Newtown found all the reports that I had previously heard to be true, and that the enemy had about two and a half hours the start of me. The creeks were so swollen that I could not cross without much trouble, so I returned to Winchester and fed my horses.

While in Winchester the Union people were rehearsing the skirmish that took place the day before. A respectable party of Winchester told me that they heard the rebel commander say that he "did not intend to fight Major Hunter's command; only intended to annoy his rear." Several ladies and gentlemen told me that when the enemy were driving Captain Crawford through the streets of Winchester that Major Hunter was talking with some ladies and his command was straggling and lying about—some mounted and dismounted men, as twenty responsible parties informed me; that the rebel party that attacked Major Hunter did not exceed 100 men. After feeding my horses I returned to Martinsburg, bringing back all men and horses that I started with.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

F. G. MARTINDALE,
*Captain, First New York (Lincoln) Cavalry.*

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## APRIL 11, 1864.—Affair near Greenwich, Va.

### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. James W. Long, Second U. S. Infantry.
No. 2.—Maj. Gen. James E. B. Stuart, C. S. Army.

### No. 1.

*Report of Capt. James W. Long, Second U. S. Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND INFANTRY, U. S. ARMY,
*Catlett's Station, Va., April* 12, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders from regimental headquarters, I started last evening in command of a detachment composed of Companies C, H, and K, Second Infantry, U. S. Army, to search after Captain McKee, Second Infantry, who had been reported severely wounded by guerrillas. I first proceeded to Greenwich, 7 miles from camp, where I learned that a fight had occurred between Captain McKee,

Lieutenants Lacey, Byrne, and Butler, Second Infantry, and some guerrillas in ambush. Not learning anything of the whereabouts of these officers, I then proceeded with my command to the house of the reverend Mr. Balch. There I learned that the fight had taken place in the woods near the house, but could not learn positively the whereabouts of any of the officers missing. From there I went to Mr. Marsteller's, where I found the body of Captain McKee, who had been killed in the fray. The thieves who killed him had taken his boots, hat, and some papers, besides rifling his pockets of everything they contained. The family had seen two officers, whom I recognized from their description as Lieutenants Byrne and Butler, as prisoners, being run off in the direction of the mountains by their captors. Lieutenant Lacey, I understand, escaped.

After getting the body of Captain McKee, I returned home.

The place where Captain McKee was killed was in a country road, between the houses of Mr. Balch and Mr. Marsteller, the thick pines on each side of the road serving admirably for an ambush.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JAMES W. LONG,
*Capt. Second Infantry, U. S. Army, Comdg. Detachment.*

[Capt. J. S. CONRAD,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*]

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
*April* 12, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

These officers absented themselves from camp in violation of orders.

R. B. AYRES,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS, *April* 12, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Attention directed to General Ayres' indorsement.

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.*

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *April* 14, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

If such lessons are necessary to convince officers of the necessity of obeying orders they can scarcely be regretted. From my experience with the people of Virginia in the region we have been so long in possession of I think them entitled to no consideration, and believe our interests imperatively demand a complete clearing out of all the residents for a space of 15 to 20 miles on each side of the railroad by compelling them to move to another location, all people who have taken the oath of allegiance being compensated for their losses.

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, with the recommendation that First Lieuts. Francis E. Lacey, Thomas Byrne, and James Butler, Second U. S. Infantry, be dismissed the service for having absented themselves from their camp in violation of orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*April* 19, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Major-General Halleck, Chief of Staff, U. S. Army.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Sixth indorsement.]

APRIL 19, 1864.

Approved.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

[Seventh indorsement.]

APRIL 20, 1864.

Approved.*

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Gen. James E. B. Stuart, C. S. Army.*

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 14, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the following affair (*petite guerre*) which occurred near Catlett's Station on the 11th instant:

Privates Richard Lewis and A. A. Marsteller, both of Company H, Fourth Virginia Cavalry, met with a party of 4 officers of the regular army, U. S. Army (a captain and 3 lieutenants). These two gallant scouts attacked the party, Lewis confronting the leading two while Marsteller presented his pistol at the two in rear. One of these (Captain McKee, of the Second U. S. Infantry) offered resistance, but was eventually killed, not, however, until he had fired twice at his assailant. The captain's comrade took advantage of this rencounter and escaped. Marsteller having dispatched McKee, re-en-

* By Special Orders, No. 154, paragraph 49, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, April 21, 1864, Lieutenants Lacey, Byrne, and Butler were dismissed the service of the United States, but this dismissal was revoked, by direction of the President, in Special Orders, No. 245, paragraph 43, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, July 22, 1864.

forced Lewis, when the two remaining officers surrendered. They are First Lieutenants Butler and Burns [Byrne], of the Second U. S. Infantry, evidently veterans promoted for meritorious conduct from the ranks. They have been brought safely through to my headquarters. This all took place within a short distance of the camp of a portion of the Fifth Corps.

The commanding general's attention is respectfully invited to these instances of the exhibition of extraordinary bravery and individual prowess. These officers were all armed and mounted; were veterans of the Regular Army—one says twenty years in the service.

Would it be improper to send this report to His Excellency the President?

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the Department, in connection with the report on the same subject transmitted yesterday.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Second indorsement.]

APRIL 28, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President, in compliance with a suggestion of General Stuart.

As a bold deed it may instruct and please.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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**APRIL 12-14, 1864.—Expedition from Point Lookout, Md., to Westmoreland County, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Saint Mary's District.*

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
*Point Lookout, Md., April* 15, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on Tuesday evening, the 12th instant, with 300 men of the Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, Colonel Draper, and 50 U. S. cavalry, under Lieutenant Mix, on board the steamer Long Branch, with three gun-boats of the Potomac Flotilla, under command of Captain Eastman, I proceeded from this district to the Virginia shore in search of contraband goods and to break up blockading establishments.

On Wednesday morning I effected a landing on the right bank of Lower Machodoc Creek, and sent a boat expedition in charge of Colonel Draper across the creek to scour the peninsula between it

and the Nomini River, to search for contraband goods, which resulted in seizing 177 boxes of superior Gravely tobacco, probably worth $40,000 U. S. currency.

Mr. Joseph H. Maddox, who claimed to own the tobacco, and to be an emissary of the Federal Government, was taken as a prisoner and brought to this point. Maddox has been arrested once before as a blockade-runner, and says he paid Reverdy Johnson $1,000 to get him clear, which statement is confirmed by a declaration previously made by his brother, who resides in this county.

Wednesday evening Captain Lawrence, assistant adjutant-general, with 150 men of the Thirty-sixth Infantry, and Lieutenant Mix's cavalry discovered the presence of a small body of the enemy's cavalry upon the right bank of the Machodoc, and immediately advanced to attack them, when they fell back to a hill about 6 miles from the place of our landing, to which they were pursued, and from which they fled upon the approach of our troops. Not deeming it profitable to pursue them, I let them go. A couple of buildings from which our troops were fired on by the enemy were burned.

The object of the expedition having been accomplished, on Thursday evening I returned to this point with the tobacco seized and about 50 contrabands, and without any loss of men or material.

I have directed Mr. Maddox to be sent to your headquarters, and the tobacco to be forwarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Biggs, department quartermaster.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. W. HINKS,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 13, 1864.—Affair near Nokesville, Va.**

*Report of Capt. James F. Grimes, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry.*

HDQRS. BATTALION SEVENTEENTH U. S. INFANTRY,
*Camp near Nokesville, Va., April* 14, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that the outpost of cavalry, Thirteenth Pennsylvania, thrown out some 500 yards in advance of this camp, was attacked by guerrillas at 6 p. m. last evening.

W. Flanders, a notorious guerrilla, was shot dead, but not before he had succeeded in wounding Private M. Locke, of the cavalry, in the left leg and left arm. Skirmishers were immediately thrown out from the camp and the woods scoured by them and a party of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania, under Major McCabe, but without securing the remainder of the guerrilla gang.

I would also respectfully state that the man Flanders was identified by the officers of this regiment as the man who on several occasions accompanied Dr. Edmunds into the camp of the Seventeenth Infantry, while at Catlett's Station.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. F. GRIMES,
*Captain Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, Commanding.*

Lieut. W. W. SWAN,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**APRIL 13–15, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Portsmouth to the Blackwater, Va.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Near Portsmouth, Va., April* 16, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, a reconnaissance in force was made to the Blackwater. The force consisted of detachments of the Eleventh and Fifth Pennsylvania and Second U. S. Colored Cavalry Regiments—an aggregate of 1,500 men, commanded by Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.

The force took up their line of march from Suffolk at 10 p. m. 13th instant, for Zuni, via Deserted House, arriving at Andrews' Corners or Cross-Roads at daylight 14th instant. No signs or traces of the enemy were visible along the line of march. The main body of the force being stationed at the cross-roads, scouting parties were sent out in all directions; four companies were sent to Zuni with instructions to picket the roads leading to Broadwater bridge, Isle of Wight Court-House, and other roads leading to the Blackwater. At Zuni a small force of rebels (30 or 40) were seen behind their earth-works. Efforts were made to draw their fire by our men exposing themselves with a view to ascertain if they had artillery, but proved fruitless. No shots were exchanged.

Pickets were sent out on the roads leading to Joiner and Blackwater bridges, on the Blackwater River. The road leading to Blackwater bridge from the main road to Joiner Bridge is impassable, being blockaded by a large number of trees felled across the road. No evidence of the enemy at this point. A force was also sent to Windsor to picket the roads in that vicinity. Private Thomas H. Langley, of the Seventh Confederate Cavalry, was here captured, claiming to have left his company at Zuni for the purpose of obtaining something to eat.

At dusk, on the 14th instant, the pickets on the different roads were drawn in, when the column returned to camp, where they arrived at 2 p. m. on the 15th instant. In addition to the above force, a force commanded by Col. W. H. P. Steere was sent to Suffolk to hold that point during the absence of cavalry. The force was composed of the following regiments and detachments: Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, two companies of the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts, and a section of the Fourth Wisconsin Battery. In compliance with instructions, a portion of the force was sent to Milnerstown, and scouting parties sent up and down the branch to co-operate with navy cutters. As soon as the navy had finished exploring, the infantry returned to Suffolk. No indications of the enemy were seen.

After the return of Colonel Stetzel's command the entire force returned to camp, leaving the usual pickets at Bernard's Mills.

Col. S. H. Roberts, commanding District of Currituck, reports the capture of Colonel Whitson, Eighth North Carolina (rebel) Infantry; he was formerly lieutenant-colonel, and succeeded Colonel Shaw when he was killed. Colonel Whitson was on a visit home, and when an effort was made to capture him he attempted to escape;

paying no attention when commanded to halt, he was shot and dangerously wounded.

I would also respectfully report the return of the troops of my command ordered to report to Brigadier-General Graham.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe.*

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**APRIL 13–15, 1864.—Expedition from Norfolk to Isle of Wight County, Va., and skirmishes near Cherry Grove Landing and at Smithfield.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham, U. S. Army, commanding Naval Brigade.
No. 2.—Col. Andrew Ewell, Twenty-third Massachusetts Infantry.
No. 3.—Col. Josiah Pickett, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry.
No. 4.—Col. Oliver Keese, jr., One hundred and eighteenth New York Infantry.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham, U. S. Army, commanding Naval Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS NAVAL BRIGADE,
*Norfolk, Va., April* 16, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the following as the result of an expedition to Isle of Wight County, under the instructions issued by you on the 12th instant:

At 7 p. m. on the 13th instant the transports Woodis, Tucker, Tracy, Thomas, and Pentz, convoyed by the army gun-boats Brewster, Jesup, Reno, a small boat fitted out temporarily called the Emma, and a detachment of 1 officer and 40 men belonging to the gun-boat Foster, with four launches, left this place at the same time and proceeded as far as the flag-ship Minnesota, off Newport News.

At my request Admiral Lee dispatched the naval gun-boat Delaware, piloted by Mr. Monroe, of the Jesup, with the launches and detachment from the gun-boat Foster, to the Nansemond, the launches to take the place of the pontoons, which I discovered late in the afternoon to have been neglected to be provided for the crossing of the detachment which had concentrated at Sleepy Hole for that purpose. The launches arrived at the point indicated at 12 midnight, and the crossing immediately commenced. It was daylight before it was accomplished.

At 12 midnight the gun-boat Brewster convoyed the transport Pentz, with the Twenty-third Massachusetts Volunteers on board, to Berwell's Bay and landed it there, the navy gun-boats remaining at that point to cover the detachment, and the gun-boat Brewster returning to the mouth of Pagan Creek, from which point, in connection with the gun-boat Jesup, she was to convoy the transports Tracy and Thomas, having on board the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, to Smithfield. The Jesup having grounded, the Brewster and steamer Emma, with Lieutenant Bleadenhiser, of the Jesup,

on board, started to convoy the transports. Great delay was experienced in finding the channel of the creek, owing to the changes caused by the recent freshets, and the boats continually grounded. The Brewster was unable to proceed, and the transports were finally convoyed by the naval gun-boat Stepping Stones and the steamer Emma, landing the troops at Smithfield about 12 noon on the 14th instant.

At 4 a. m. on the 14th instant I sailed from off Newport News on the flag-ship Chamberlain, followed by the transports Tucker and Woodis, with the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers and two sections of artillery on board, under convoy of the army gun-boat Reno, proceeding up Chuckatuck Creek to Cherry Grove Landing, where the infantry and artillery were landed at 7 a. m. No opposition was made to the landing, and soon after Colonel Keese, with his detachment of the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers, reported, not having arrived as early as was expected in order to cover the landing of the troops at this point, owing to the delay in crossing the Nansemond River. At this point a large sloop that had been drawn up on the land was destroyed by detachment from the crew of the gun-boat Reno.

At 7.45 a. m. the line of march was taken up for Smithfield. Upon the advance of the skirmishers they were fired on from the woods by a force of about 100 men, and continual skirmishing was kept up for 3 or 4 miles. Owing to the dense thicket on both sides of the road it was impossible to capture the party which annoyed our advance and delayed the column in its march. One of the enemy being wounded fell into our hands, reporting that he belonged to the Sixty-first North Carolina Infantry, our loss being 1 man, slightly wounded.

Upon arriving at Benn's Church the column was halted for twenty minutes, when the line of march was again taken up, the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers being ordered to remain at that point until 3 p. m., when it would follow to Smithfield.

I arrived at Smithfield about 5 p. m. Finding that the force landed at Berwell's Bay had not reached that place, as was expected, and the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, which landed at Smithfield, had taken the road to Isle of Wight Court-House instead of that leading to Benn's Church, I immediately made arrangements to hold the town, sent Lieutenant Bullard, of my staff, with a small squad of cavalry, to find the whereabouts of the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, and dispatched the gun-boat Brewster with a transport to Berwell's Bay for the purpose of re-embarking the force landed there, should they have fallen back to the cover of the gun-boats. The Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers reported to me in about an hour, having found the road and ascertained that I had reached Smithfield. Not having heard from the force landed on Berwell's Bay I concluded to remain until morning.

At daylight on the morning of the 15th instant a detachment of the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers was ordered to proceed up Pagan Creek for the purpose of destroying all small boats. They marched about 2 miles, met no force of the enemy, and reported as having destroyed two eight-oared boats, four skiffs, and two dug-outs. Lieutenant Margerum likewise ascended the creek for several miles in the gun-boat Emma, seeing no enemy and discovering no boats. At 4 a. m. Captain Harris, of the gun-boat Brewster, having reported the safe re-embarkment of the Twenty-

third Massachusetts Volunteers, they having fallen back to the cover of the gun-boats (for the cause of such a movement you are respectfully referred to the report of Colonel Elwell, commanding that regiment), I immediately commenced re-embarking the expedition, which being accomplished, Captain Sampson, of my staff, was ordered on board the transport John Tucker, with orders to proceed with the transports to Portsmouth.

For the minor details of the forces that were not under my immediate supervision you are respectfully referred to the reports of the officers in command, which accompany this.

Owing to the want of transportation, but little property was brought off, though considerable had been collected. The following is a list of captures furnished by Captain Sampson, quartermaster of the expedition: Ten horses, 3 carriages, 1¼ boxes tobacco, 75 papers smoking tobacco, 17 pairs boots, one-half barrel sugar, 8 augers, 2 stocks and dies, 2 sets harness, 1 skiff, 20 yards cotton cloth, 4 saddles.

The following is a list* of the casualties during the expedition.

Prisoners captured: One signal officer, 5 privates, C. S. Army; also 1 piece of artillery (brass), and quantity of ammunition.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Brigadier-General.*

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Col. Andrew Elwell, Twenty-third Massachusetts Infantry.*

HDQRS. TWENTY-THIRD MASSACHUSETTS VOLS.,
*Near Portsmouth, Va., April* 15, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with Special Orders, paragraph II, No. 14, headquarters Lee's brigade, I proceeded with 16 officers and 398 men of my regiment by rail to Portsmouth, Va., at 5 p. m. on the 13th instant, and then, in compliance with orders from Brigadier-General Graham, embarked on board the steamer John W. D. Pentz and sailed up the James River under convoy of the gun-boat Brewster. I landed with my command about 9 miles above Smithfield at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 14th instant. I immediately took a line of march toward the town. After marching about 3 miles came upon the enemy's pickets and drove them in. Continued on about 2 miles farther, where I came upon the enemy concealed behind earthworks. After a short skirmish with them, drove them out with a loss on our side of 2 men (Privates Osborn, Company G, and Symond, Company C) slightly wounded in the leg. I followed them on about half a mile, when they again made a stand on the farther side of a mill-pond at a place called Wren's Mills, and there being but a very narrow place to cross I engaged them for about one hour, when one company charged across, drove them from their position, and captured a signal officer of the C. S. service and 2 privates

*Nominal list of casualties (omitted) reports 4 men wounded (1 mortally) and 1 missing of the Twenty-third Massachusetts, 1 wounded of the Ninth New Jersey, and 1 man accidentally drowned of the Thirteenth New York Artillery.

of the Seventh C. S. Cavalry. I had one sergeant dangerously wounded through the left shoulder at this place (Sergeant Porter, Company I).

The enemy's cavalry having begun to give some trouble in my rear, and having no means to carry my wounded along with me, and not knowing the strength or position of the enemy in front, I deemed it proper to fall back to the James River at a point called Fort Boykin. I found near this fort a signal station, where I captured a private of the Seventh C. S. Cavalry; also a piece of artillery and a quantity of ammunition said to have been taken by the enemy from the U. S. gun-boat Barney Smith, near Smithfield. During my march to this point I had a corporal (Corporal Lord, Company I) seriously wounded in the right leg by the enemy's cavalry, who followed our rear guard very close. I sent my wounded men on board the gun-boat and turned over to Captain Fyffe, U. S. Navy, all prisoners captured, together with the piece of artillery and ammunition. I have missing 1 private (Thomas, Company F), who is probably wounded and a prisoner. He was sent with my quartermaster to the river to communicate with the gun-boats. I re-embarked at 8 p. m. and sailed down to Pagan Creek, where we came to anchor for the night to await the arrival of boats from Smithfield.

At 10 o'clock this a. m., in compliance with orders received from Brigadier-General Graham, I proceeded to Portsmouth with my command, from there by rail to my camp at this place, arriving at 3.30 p. m.

It was impossible to find out the strength of the enemy or their loss in killed and wounded, but should judge from what I could learn from the prisoners taken that they had at least 100 men, and I have no doubt but what I did them much injury. My loss is, wounded, 4; missing, 1; total, 5. The enemy's loss, as far as I am able to tell, is 4 prisoners, one piece of artillery, and a quantity of ammunition.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ANDREW ELWELL,
*Colonel, Commanding Regiment.*

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
*Commanding Army Gun-boats.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Col. Josiah Pickett, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry.*

HDQRS. 25TH MASSACHUSETTS VET. VOL. INFANTRY,
*April* 19, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with Special Orders, No. 14, paragraph III, I left my camp on the 13th with 400 men and 19 officers, taking the cars for Portsmouth, and, arriving there at sunset, immediately embarked the right wing on board the steamer C. W. Thomas and the left on the John Tracy. At midnight I received my instructions, a copy of which I inclose.* In running up the river from Newport News our transports, with the convoy gun-boat Jesup, grounded; the Jesup finally remaining immovable we passed on, running ashore again at the mouth of Pagan Creek. The men on board the Thomas were then removed

* Not found.

on board some launches; the steamer worked off, and, piloted by the gun-boat Stepping Stones, we proceeded up the creek, reaching Smithfield at 2 p. m.

In accordance with my instructions, I landed my regiment, and immediately pushed on the road indicated in my orders. When some 2 miles from town firing was heard from the gun-boats in our rear; leaving them to take care of the enemy there, I continued to advance. Reaching Scott's Mills, some 6 miles from Smithfield, I obtained information that the co-operating column had passed that point, taking another road for Smithfield. Under these circumstances I deemed it useless to proceed farther, returned, and reported to General Graham, who directed me to bivouac my men outside the town and throw out my outposts, which I did, strongly picketing all the approaches during the night. At daybreak I was ordered to re-embark with my command, reaching Portsmouth at 2 p. m. and my own camp some two hours thereafter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. PICKETT,
*Colonel 25th Massachusetts Veteran Volunteer Infantry.*

Lieut. R. DALE BENSON,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 4.

*Report of Col. Oliver Keese, jr., One hundred and eighteenth New York Infantry.*

HDQRS. 118TH REGIMENT NEW YORK STATE VOLS.,
*Bowers' Hill, Va., April* 16, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to your instructions, I left my camp at Bowers' Hill, Va., on the 13th instant, at 3 p. m., and marched to Sleepy Hole Landing, on the Nansemond River, arriving there between 6 and 7 p. m., and then waited for the launches until 2 a. m. the 14th instant.

I got my command across the river by 4 a. m., landing at Holloway's Wharf. I immediately sent 100 men, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, down the river to Barrel Point, and started with the remainder of my command, 300 men, for Cherry Grove, arriving there at 7 a. m.

At the village of Chuckatuck I found and destroyed three boats. I found no other boats on the march. I captured at Chuckatuck and on the march to Cherry Grove 10 horses and 4 mules. After halting at Cherry Grove an hour, in obedience to your orders, I followed the line of march of the Ninth New Jersey to Benn's Church, arriving there at 11.20 a. m. I remained there until 2.30 p. m., when hearing artillery firing I moved on toward Smithfield, Va., arriving there at 5 p. m. I captured at Mrs. Norfleet's house, about 2 miles from Cherry Grove, a private in the signal corps. The scouts of the enemy showed themselves at different points along our line of march.

On the morning of the 15th, at daylight, 70 men, under command of Captain Parmenter, marched up the Smithfield Creek 2 miles; they found and destroyed 2 eight-oared launches, 4 skiffs, and 2 dug-outs. The horses and mules that I captured on the route were turned loose for want of transportation at Smithfield.

Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, commanding the detachment that

marched to Barrel Point, on the Nansemond, reports that he found no boats on the line of his march, but saw 4 of the enemy's scouts about 5 miles down the river.

I have the honor to be, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. KEESE, JR.,
*Colonel, Comdg. 118th Regt. New York Volunteers.*

Lieut. R. D. BENSON,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 15, 1864.—Affairs near Bristoe Station and Milford, Va.**

*Report of Col. William McCandless, Second Pennsylvania Reserves, commanding division.*

HDQRS. PA. RESERVES, THIRD DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
*Bristoe, April* 18, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of to-day with reference to attacks on railroad guard, &c. The only one I have failed to report was that of the 15th instant, when 3 mounted guerrillas passed along the north side of the railroad outside of the infantry picket above Manassas Junction, fired into and shot 2 men of the Tenth Regiment Infantry, who were attached to a squad sent out as guard with a wagon to obtain wood. The same squad of guerrillas crossed Broad Run near Milford and surprised the vedettes of the Thirteenth Cavalry, who were posted on the Greenwich road, about 1½ miles from Bristoe. These vedettes (4 in number) behaved shamefully, abandoning one of their comrades, who was killed, and losing their horses. I have placed them in arrest and had charges preferred against them for misbehavior before the enemy.

Such cases as the above will continue to occur as long as this cavalry is on duty here, they being entirely unfitted for the service required. While the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry were on duty here no guerrillas ventured near the railroad without being either killed or captured.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

WM. McCANDLESS,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**APRIL 16, 1864.—Affair near Catlett's Station, Va.**

*Report of Maj. Gen. James E. B. Stuart, C. S. Army.*

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 20, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the following affair (*petite guerre*), which occurred in the operations within the enemy's lines near Catlett's Station on the 16th instant:

Privates Channing M. Smith, Richard Lewis, and Love, of Com-

pany H, Fourth Virginia Cavalry, acting as scouts in Fauquier County, met and attacked a party of 5 of the enemy, killing 4, the other escaping. This affair reflects great credit on the valor and skill of the gallant scouts who executed it, and too much praise cannot be awarded them. Their operations serve to inspire confidence in our cause and keep our enemies in a state of constant and wholesome terror. The attention of the commanding general is called to these young men, who are continually giving evidence of their gallantry and daring by similar exploits.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *April* 20, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the Department.

I have on several previous occasions called the attention of the Secretary of War to the gallantry of Channing M. Smith and other young scouts of this army.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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**APRIL 17, 1864.—Skirmish at Beaver Creek, N. C.**

*Report of Col. James W. Savage, Twelfth New York Cavalry.*

HDQRS. TWELFTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
*Camp Palmer, April* 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that a detachment of 22 men, under Actg. Capt. John W. Horn and Lieut. H. Watkins, left this camp on a reconnaissance at 12 o'clock on Saturday last. Captain Horn had general instructions to discover whether there was any force in Trenton and any considerable body of men on the Kinston road. At about 4 p. m. on Sunday, the 17th, he was attacked by a considerable force of cavalry and infantry, numbering in all about 500. The men seem to have fought with great bravery, and to have held their ground for some time until completely surrounded. All but 4 of the detachment have returned, one of whom, Sergeant Benton, is known to have been wounded. I transmit the report* of Captain Horn to me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
*Colonel Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry.*

Lieut. WILLIAM L. WHEATON,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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*Not found.

## APRIL 17–20, 1864.—Capture of Plymouth, N. C.

### REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.
No. 2.—Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.
No. 3.—Brig. Gen. Henry W. Wessells, U. S. Army, commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle.
No. 4.—Lieut. Lucein A. Butts, Eighty-fifth New York Infantry.
No. 5.—Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army.
No. 6.—Abstract from Record of Events on return of the District of North Carolina for April, 1864.
No. 7.—Resolution of thanks by Confederate Congress.

### No. 1.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 19, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

SIR: I have received communication that the enemy have attacked Plymouth in considerable force; thus far have been repulsed. Their iron-clads have not yet come into action. I have directed General Peck to make such disposition of the forces in his district as best to repel this movement. I have taken from him a single cavalry regiment and a light battery. He must have 10,000 men under his command. Shall I do anything more?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.*

(Copy to Secretary of War.)

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 21, 1864.

Dispatches from Beaufort, N. C. Rebel ram came down the Roanoke, passed Plymouth, sunk the Southfield, disabled the Miami, and has gone into the Sound. Flusser is killed. Great consternation there.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Hon. G. V. FOX,
*Assistant Secretary of the Navy.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 21, 1864—8.30 p. m.
(Received 10.20 p. m.)

Dispatches in from Beaufort. Rebel ram has come down Roanoke River; sunk one gun-boat; disabled another. Commander Flusser,

* For reports of naval officers see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

a very valuable officer, is killed. She has passed Plymouth. My three posts (Plymouth, Washington, and New Berne) are well garrisoned with all the force I ought to spare them—provisions, men, rations, and arms. They ought to hold out, and I have every confidence they will. Perhaps this is intended as a diversion. Any instructions?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff.*

(Copy to General Grant.)

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 21, 1864—12 p. m.
(Received 3 a. m., 22d.)

Have received particulars from the surgeon of the Miami. Ram floated down the river in the night, passed the battery at Plymouth; first discovered immediately under the bows of the Miami, floating with the current. The Southfield and Miami were lashed together. Flusser went forward and sighted his bow gun, loaded with shell, 10-second fuse; the shell struck the iron-clad, rebounded, and killed Flusser instantly at the gun, one piece cutting his heart out. The ram then went into the Southfield, and she sunk in five minutes. The Miami cast loose, and being afraid she would run aground backed down the river firing at the ram, with what damage is not known. When Miami got into the Sound she came to anchor and sent the Whitehead up to see what had become of the iron-clad. The Ceres, gun-boat, took Flusser's body to Roanoke Island, and brought away the surgeon, with dispatches for Admiral Lee. In the mean time the enemy had invested Plymouth and were threatening an assault. Our last report from General Wessells, in command, was that he was holding out, and the enemy were engaged shelling the town. It is reported Plymouth is captured, but not credited. Ram is 125 feet long, draws 8 feet of water, has two independent propellers, and makes about 4 knots; has two guns, only 20-pounders. She will have done all the mischief she can do, probably, before our obstructions and your camels could be ready. Admiral Lee has sent down a gun-boat. I have sent three army gun-boats, under Graham, carrying 30-pounder Parrotts, light-draught and very swift, with orders to Graham to run her down. I think we will get a good account of her yet. Will send your telegram to Graham, with instructions to sink the obstructions if practicable. Surgeon thinks she had not power enough to go up the Roanoke against the current. So far as I can judge, after Flusser was killed no fight was made.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

G. V. FOX,
*Assistant Secretary of the Navy.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, Va., April* 24, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose the reports of Generals Palmer and Peck * upon the capture of Plymouth. It will be seen

* Peck's report of April 22, 2 p. m., p. 286.

that Plymouth really fell because the theory of its defenses presupposed an occupation of the river by our gun-boats, which would cover our flanks. When the naval force was driven out by the rebel ram then her fire flanked our defenses instead of our fire enfilading the enemy. So far as I can learn, there was no fighting except artillery firing after the ram got possession of the river, Tuesday morning, up to Wednesday, 3 p. m., when the surrender was made. If the reports are correct, it has cost the enemy in men all it has gained. The commander of the naval forces had expressed the most unbounded confidence in his ability to hold the river, and on this I have no doubt General Wessells relied.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff of the Army.*

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No. 2.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 14, 1864.

GENERAL: General Harland reports no change in his front on the 12th instant. His letter has the following, which I extract:

John Wolfenden, who lives about 2 miles from Fort Jack, says that he was up toward Greenville last Sunday and saw Captain Myers, of Whitford's regiment. He says that Myers told him that the ram at Kinston was completed, and that the only delay was in the construction of the small boats to take her over the shoals. He thought everything would be ready in less than a week. I think his account of his conversation with Myers can be relied on.

Nothing can be done by the rebels while the weather continues as it has been for many days. They must have enough to do soon in other quarters.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 14, 1864—7.30 p. m.

GENERAL: I wrote you briefly this day giving the information sent in by General Harland respecting the iron-clad in the Neuse. I now send a copy of a communication just received from General Wessells, commanding, of which he states he had sent a copy direct to your headquarters. From his letter it seems he expects an attack by land and water. He reports 10,000 to 12,000 at Hamilton, and asks for 5,000 fresh troops and the steamer Commodore Perry. The Perry is not here, but I will suggest to Commodore Davenport to send the Tacony temporarily.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE,
*Plymouth, N. C., April* 13, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, District of North Carolina:*

CAPTAIN: Information from several disconnected sources has reached me within two days past that a large force of the enemy (stated at 10,000 to 12,000) has assembled near Hamilton, on this river, designing, in conjunction with an iron-clad boat, to make an attack on Plymouth this week; a demonstration to be made toward New Berne at the same time. The persons from whom this report is derived reside in Bertie and Hertford Counties; are all personally known to me, and I feel satisfied that they state what they believe to be true. They do not report from actual knowledge, but from statements made to them by others. Whether their informants are reliable or not, I am unable to judge. At all events, I do not feel disposed to neglect their warnings, and in view of their importance I request a temporary re-enforcement of 5,000 men. The presence of the gun-boat Commodore Perry, now I believe in James River, would, I think, put a stop to any further threats from the iron-clad above us on this river. It is proper to state further that information of a different character, derived from negroes and others, reaches me from this side of the Roanoke. Like that mentioned above, it is from hearsay, and denies that there is any formidable collection of troops in the locality above named. I am using every means in my power to arrive at the truth, but am compelled to depend upon such reports and through such channels as are accessible to my informants.

The condition of the river at this time is favorable to operations by water, being unusually high, while the condition of the creeks and swamps is not favorable for the movements of troops. I should regret making any report not justified by future events, but must depend upon the best information within my reach, and there is too much at stake to neglect any reasonable warnings. A copy of this letter is sent direct to department headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. WESSELLS,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 18, 1864—7 p. m.

GENERAL: At 5.30 p. m. I learned of a demonstration near our outposts this morning by General Corse with 2,200 and four pieces of artillery, under orders of General Pickett. The deserters say the force returned to Kinston or in that direction this day, and that General Pickett would attack Little Washington to-morrow morning. As Plymouth has been threatened, and Ransom and Garland are in the vicinity of Williamston, it is a matter of uncertainty where Pickett will strike. Under the circumstances, I have dispatched 600 infantry to Little Washington, and Commander Davenport will send the Tacony this evening. This will add materially to General Harland's strength and enable him to hold the enemy until more positive information reaches me. The enemy is doubtless ad-

vised of the withdrawal of troops from North Carolina. Wherever he goes he will get a good fight. Of course I shall advise you of everything of moment at the earliest moment.

In haste, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Commanding, &c.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 19, 1864.

GENERAL: I had the honor to advise you last evening of the information which reached me from deserters respecting the movements of General Pickett on Little Washington, which has been confirmed by others getting in this day. In spite of the demonstration of General Corse and of a rumored move up the sounds from Swansborough, I dispatched all the aid that seemed proper, and the senior naval officer sent the Tacony.

At an early hour this morning I received a dispatch from General Wessells, who writes that he forwarded a duplicate direct to your headquarters, which are practically nearer than mine. Commander Davenport had a dispatch of a similar import from Commander Flusser, U. S. Navy. Neither General Palmer nor Commander Davenport thought it prudent to reduce the forces here in view of the situation and I fully concurred, but I have ordered the Farrow up with infantry for Plymouth, and doubt not you will send the aid that may be necessary for General Wessells to cope properly with the enemy. The force in North Carolina is very small indeed, there being only about 10,150 present for duty. The sick, I believe, is about 1,400.

The steamer is due this afternoon from Little Washington, and I hope to receive something reliable respecting the operations of the enemy. For a number of days scarcely a man has come into our lines with information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Commanding, &c.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 20, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that my command in North Carolina having been threatened by the enemy with a general attack, I found it necessary to call upon a battalion of the Twenty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Col. G. A. Scroggs commanding, which yesterday lay at Morehead City awaiting transportation to New Orleans. I had sent away a large number of the troops under Brigadier-General Palmer, comprising the garrison of this place, for the re-enforcement of Plymouth, then besieged, and of Washington, then threatened, and it became absolutely necessary to place all other available troops at

this point. With this object in view I telegraphed Colonel Ripley, Ninth Vermont Volunteers, commanding Sub-district of Beaufort, to send up the battalion of the Twenty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops. Transportation was sent at the same time with the expectation the troops would be on their way by daylight. This morning Colonel Ripley communicated my orders to Colonel Scroggs, who, to my surprise, declined to obey; the major of the regiment also refuses to execute the orders. The senior captain of the battalion, however, expressed himself ready to obey orders.

I was immediately informed by telegraph of the state of affairs. I then telegraphed to Colonel Ripley, and explained at length the great necessity of having these troops here. I directed him to assure Colonel Scroggs that the delay would be short, probably not more than one or two, perhaps three days, and that at any event my orders would be his protection. Much to my regret, Colonel Scroggs and the major both refused to obey. I immediately ordered the arrest of both of these officers. The regiment shortly after arrived in command of the senior captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 20, 1864—12 m.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of a dispatch just received. I have just sent the steamer General Berry with Captain White, Ninety-ninth New York, bearing duplicate of this to you, and also a communication from Commander Davenport, U. S. Navy, to Rear-Admiral Lee, conveying similar information. I send this also for the reason that the Berry may not get through the canal, or even by Roanoke Island.

The enemy have appeared in force in front of Plymouth, and attacked the place. The ram has sunk the Southfield, disabled the Miami, and has passed below Plymouth. The sound is probably by this time in possession of the enemy, and Roanoke Island will undoubtedly soon be attacked, if it has not been already. Washington is also threatened. Firing has been heard in that direction all night and this morning. Unless we are immediately and strongly re-enforced, both by land and water, all of Eastern North Carolina is lost to us. Immediate action is imperatively necessary. Captain Flusser, of the Miami, is killed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 20, 1864.

GENERAL: I have this morning received this very bad news from Plymouth, and inclose a copy of the dispatch for your information. There is no doubt but that Plymouth is lost by this time, and the

ram will probably come down to Roanoke Island, Washington, and New Berne. Unless we are immediately and heavily re-enforced, both by the army and navy, North Carolina is inevitably lost.

The ram is heavy and very formidable, and none of the gun-boats here can stand against its power. The Southfield is sunk, and the rest disabled.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Major-General BUTLER,
*Commanding, &c.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 21, 1864.

GENERAL: I had the honor to receive late last night your communication of the 17th instant in response to General Wessells' letter of the 14th instant, asking for re-enforcements, in which you say as follows:

> You will have to defend the district with your present force, and you will make such dispositions of them as will in your judgment best subserve this end.

It is proper to state for your information that General Wessells sent this communication direct to your headquarters to save time, expecting that any aid which might be sent would come from Virginia and not from North Carolina.

General Wessells sent a duplicate of the communication to me, with a letter expressing the above views in strong terms, knowing the reduced state of the force at my disposal in North Carolina. Notwithstanding this expression of his sentiments, I had a conference with General Palmer and Commander Davenport, U. S. Navy, and the heavy gun-boat Tacony, which is equal to two or three regiments, was immediately dispatched to Plymouth.

On Monday, the 18th instant, the Tacony arrived back from Plymouth with dispatches from General Wessells and Lieutenant-Commander Flusser, U. S. Navy. General Wessells wrote that he did not apprehend any attack, and did not think there was a very large force in his front. He further expressed the opinion that there was much doubt as to the iron-clad making its appearance, and believed that she was at Hamilton undergoing repairs or modifications.

Commander Davenport read me a communication from Commander Flusser, in which he expressed the opinion that I had misinterpreted the communication of General Wessells with reference to the re-enforcements for Plymouth.

These two commanders, after a conference, exhibited such confidence in their own ability to hold the place against any force the enemy would in any probability bring that they sent back the Tacony. Her arrival on the 18th instant, with the above-mentioned communication, placed me entirely at rest concerning any movements at Plymouth.

On Monday afternoon, about 5.30 o'clock, I received advice by deserters that General Corse was in front of the outpost at Batchelder's Creek, and that General Pickett would attack Little Washington with a large force on Tuesday. This information, taken in connection with that from General Wessells of the 16th instant

respecting the disappearance or diminution of the force in his front, led the authorities here to believe that Little Washington would be attacked immediately. Two steamers loaded with troops, together with the gun-boat Tacony, were at once dispatched to Little Washington.

At an early hour on Tuesday morning, the 19th instant, dispatches were received from General Wessells and Commander Flusser announcing an attack by a rebel land force in the afternoon of the 17th instant. This was the first information received from General Wessells subsequent to the 16th instant, when the Tacony was sent back, as above stated. The latest information, received through a contraband, the servant of Captain Stewart, assistant adjutant-general, General Wessells' staff, is to the effect that early on Tuesday morning the iron-clad had complete control of the Roanoke River, and in conjunction with the floating iron battery, the Cotton Plant, was attacking the town in the rear while the land force was engaging our troops in front. From this statement it will be seen that the enemy had complete control of the Roanoke within a few hours after I received General Wessells' last dispatch. On the reception of these dispatches, which were very favorable, steamers were dispatched with such available infantry as General Palmer could spare, together with supplies of ammunition for the army and navy at Plymouth. These steamers were detained in the Albemarle Sound by the gun-boats then lying in Edenton Bay, which had escaped from the iron-clad at Plymouth. In my judgment the non-arrival of the infantry at Plymouth is most fortunate, as they, together with the steamers, would beyond a doubt have fallen into the hands of the enemy.

A steamer with dispatches was promptly sent to General Harland, commanding at Little Washington, notifying him of the state of affairs at Plymouth. He was also requested to send down such surplus troops as he might have to be used at such points as might seem necessary. I also sent dispatches for the Tacony to proceed at once from Little Washington to Plymouth. Before these dispatches arrived Colonel Dutton, chief of my staff, had procured the sailing of the Tacony for Plymouth, going on board himself. Colonel Dutton also suggested to General Harland that he should send the steamer Pilot Boy with the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers to Plymouth, but General Harland did not feel at liberty to do so in view of his situation.

All the information received by both the senior naval officer, Commander Davenport, and myself has been promptly sent to your headquarters by both lines of communication.

General Wessells was supplied with provisions, forage, ammunition, and other requisites for a long siege. His casualties were very small, notwithstanding some five successive assaults upon his lines. His position was intact up to the appearance of the iron-clad, and he could have held the land forces at bay for weeks. A few days since I communicated the information, entirely reliable, that floats were being prepared to buoy the ram over the principal shoals in the Neuse River between this place and Kinston. It has been the intention from the first to bring the two iron-clads from the Roanoke and Neuse together in an attack upon New Berne. Should this movement be delayed it will result solely from the exigencies of the rebel service in other parts of the Confederacy.

I have omitted to say in my last dispatch that Colonel Ripley,

commanding Sub-district of Beaufort, had advised me of a contemplated movement upon Fort Macon, down the Banks, and that pontoons were being made with reference to this object. He further advises that it is currently believed in Onslow County that General Martin has been assigned the same duty as before, to wit, the attack upon Newport Barracks and the railroad.

The re-enforcements sent to General Wessells have since been ordered to occupy Roanoke Island. The chief engineer is also there to aid the commander in placing the island in the best state of defense. The chief engineer expresses the opinion that the iron-clad will have no difficulty in passing through the Croatan Sound, and his opinion is concurred in by the captains of our transports.

It is reported that the iron-clad has an average speed of 7 miles an hour, and in moderate weather can move down the Albemarle Sound. It is also reported by persons who were on board of the Southfield during the engagement that the shots from the 100-pounder rifled Parrott gun, fired when the ram was less than 100 feet from the muzzle, rebounded from her sides, inflicting no apparent injury.

In conclusion, I must state that General Palmer, who is immediately responsible for the safety of New Berne and its appendages, is of the opinion that no more troops should be detached from his command. The senior naval officer does not think it his duty to detach any of the force at his disposal here.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Commanding, &c.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 22, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have to invite your careful and early attention to my communication of the 21st, on the fall of Plymouth. I now send you a true copy of an extract from an extract furnished me and certified by Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer, referred to in mine of yesterday.

Extract from a letter written by Lieutenant-Commander Flusser, U. S. Navy, to Commander Davenport on or about the 17th of April, 1864:

> I think General Peck misinterpreted General Wessells' letter. We have had no scare here yet, and not even a small one for several days.

Please consider this a part of the communication.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Commanding, &c.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 22, 1864—2 p. m.*

GENERAL: Refugees who have left Plymouth since its fall report that it is the intention of the enemy to move on New Berne immedi-

ately. These refugees were picked up by the U. S. gun-boat Whitehead, and report that General Wessells' loss was about 400, while that of the enemy was not less than 1,500 killed and wounded. General Wessells was safe, as he and his adjutant-general, Captain Stewart, were seen together. All the prisoners were sent off, except General Wessells and staff, who were paroled to the extent of the limits of Plymouth. It is reported that a reconnaissance has been made by the enemy of the river above this place. The enemy's force was estimated at 12,000.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Major-General BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.*

P. S.—These refugees also report that General Wessells was several times summoned to surrender. The last time he sent the rebel commander word that he would surrender if the negroes and North Carolina soldiers would be treated as "prisoners of war." This was refused.

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report upon the loss of Plymouth, which is as full as it can be until General Wessells is able to make his reports, when I will make a supplementary one:

On the 20th, at 7 p. m., I received your communication of the 17th in reply to the letter of General Wessells of the 13th, asking for reenforcements. As this letter must have reached your headquarters in the evening of the 14th or early on the 15th, a reply could have reached me on the 16th in time to have communicated with General Wessells during the evening or night of the 17th. Unfortunately the reply was not written until the 17th, and did not arrive on the 20th until some hours after the fall of Plymouth.

You replied, viz:

You will have to defend the district with your present force, and you will make such dispositions of them as will in your judgment best subserve this end.

General Wessells sent his communication direct to your headquarters to save time, expecting that any aid which might be sent would come from Virginia and not North Carolina. He sent a duplicate to me with a letter expressing the above views, knowing the reduced state of the force at my disposal.

He writes, viz:

I have no idea of getting any troops, but have always been anxious to see more troops in North Carolina.

Notwithstanding this expression of his sentiments, I had a conference with General Palmer and Commander Davenport, U. S. Navy, and the heavy gun-boat Tacony, which is equal to two or three regiments, was immediately dispatched to Plymouth.

On the 18th instant the Tacony arrived back from Plymouth, with dispatches from General Wessells and Commander Flusser.

General Wessels wrote that he did not apprehend any attack, and did not think there was a large force in his front. He expressed the opinion that there was doubt as to the iron-clad making its appearance, and believed she was at Hamilton undergoing repairs or modifications.

He wrote on the 16th, viz:

I have the honor to report that the gun-boat Tacony arrived here to-day, but as her presence at this time does not seem to be necessary I have so informed her commander, and he proposes to return to New Berne to-morrow. I cannot learn that there is any considerable force of the enemy on the river now, though such is the report from various sources. I very much doubt if there is any design of bringing the thing (iron-clad) down. Still there may be, as they say, when the Neuse ram is ready. I am desirous of seeing more troops in this State, &c.

Commander Flusser also wrote to Commander Davenport, senior naval officer, viz:

I think General Peck misinterpreted General Wessells' letter. We have had no scare here yet, and not even a small one for several days.

These able commanders had so much confidence in their ability to hold their position against anything the enemy could bring against them that they sent back the re-enforcements sent them. This action placed me entirely at rest respecting affairs at Plymouth.

On Monday (18th) afternoon, about 5.30 o'clock, I received advices by deserters that General Corse was in front of the outposts at Batchelder's Creek with a large force of all arms, and that General Pickett would attack Little Washington on Tuesday. This information, taken in connection with that from General Wessells of the 16th instant, respecting the disappearance or diminution of the force in his front, led the authorities here to believe that Little Washington would be attacked immediately. Two steamers loaded with troops, together with the gun-boat Tacony, were at once dispatched to Little Washington.

At an early hour on Tuesday morning, the 19th instant, dispatches were received from General Wessells and Commander Flusser, announcing an attack by a rebel land force on the afternoon of the 17th instant. This was the first information received from General Wessells subsequent to the 16th instant, when the Tacony was sent back as above stated. The latest information, received through a contraband, the servant of Captain Stewart, assistant adjutant-general, General Wessells' staff, is to the effect that early on Tuesday morning the iron-clad had complete control of the Roanoke River, and in conjunction with the floating iron battery, the Cotton Plant, was attacking the town in the rear, while the land forces were engaging our troops in front. From this statement it will be seen that the enemy had complete control of the Roanoke River within a very few hours of the time I received General Wessells' dispatch of Sunday night, the 17th. On the reception of these dispatches, which were very favorable, steamers were dispatched with such available infantry as General Palmer could spare, together with supplies of ammunition for the army and navy at Plymouth. These steamers were detained in the Albemarle Sound by the gun-boats then lying in Edenton Bay, which had escaped from the iron-clad at Plymouth. In my judgment the non-arrival of the infantry at Plymouth is most fortunate, as they, together with the steamers, would beyond a doubt have fallen into the hands of the enemy.

A steamer with dispatches was promptly sent to General Harland,

commanding at Little Washington, notifying him of the state of affairs at Plymouth. He was also requested to send down such surplus troops as he might have to be used at such points as might seem necessary. I also sent dispatches for the Tacony to proceed at once from Little Washington to Plymouth. Before these dispatches arrived Colonel Dutton, chief of my staff, had procured the sailing of the Tacony for Plymouth, going on board himself. Colonel Dutton also suggested to General Harland that he should send the steamer Pilot Boy with the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers to Plymouth, but General Harland did not feel at liberty to do so, in view of his situation.

All the information received by both the senior naval officer, Commander Davenport, and myself was promptly sent to your headquarters by both lines of communication. General Wessells was supplied with provisions, forage, ammunition, tools, and other requisites for a protracted siege. His command numbered some 2,500 at Plymouth, and the casualties were very small, notwithstanding five assaults on Monday. His position was intact up to the appearance of the iron-clad and Cotton Plant at 3 a. m. the 19th, and but for the loss of the river he could have held the land forces at bay for weeks. General Wessells and his command, and the navy under the late gallant Lieutenant-Commander Flusser, made a heroic fight worthy of our arms. They deserve well of the country, and history will record in glowing terms their honorable conduct.

A few days since I communicated the information, entirely reliable, that floats were being prepared to buoy the ram over the principal shoals in the Neuse River, between this place and Kinston. It has been the intention from the first to bring the two iron-clads from the Roanoke and Neuse together in an attack upon New Berne. Should this movement be delayed it will result solely from the exigencies of rebel service in other parts of the Confederacy.

Colonel Ripley, commanding Sub-district of Beaufort, advised me of a contemplated movement upon Fort Macon, down the Banks, and that pontoons were being made with reference to this object. He further advised that it is currently believed in Onslow County that General Martin has been assigned the same duty as before, to wit, the attack upon Newport Barracks and the railroad. The reenforcements sent to General Wessells have since been ordered to occupy Roanoke Island. The chief engineer has also been there to aid the commander in placing the island in the best state of defense. The chief engineer expresses the opinion that the iron-clad will have no difficulty in passing through the Croatan Sound, and this opinion is concurred in by the captains of our transports.

General Palmer, who is immediately responsible for the safety of New Berne and its appendages, was of the opinion that no more troops should be detached from his command. The senior naval officer did not think it his duty to detach any of the force at his disposal here.

### IRON-CLADS.

Since our only disaster in North Carolina has resulted from the introduction by the rebels of formidable iron-clads in their offensive operations it becomes very important to show what steps have been taken to advise Major-General Butler and to protect North Carolina from rebel invasions. Soon after my arrival I learned that the iron-

clad was on the stocks at Edwards' Ferry, and advised the department commander in two communications proposing a raid to burn it. The reply (in September) was :

That the forces of the department will not permit of the proposed movement at present.

September 10, I asked for a small iron-clad.

November 15, 1863, I addressed Major-General Butler as follows, viz :

During a recent visit at Plymouth, I found the senior naval officer somewhat nervous in consequence of a report having reached General Wessells of an examination of the Roanoke, with a view to bringing down a ram at Edwards' Ferry, some 12 or 15 miles below Halifax. All sorts of reports are put afloat for the purpose of influencing our operations. My latest advices are that she is not yet complete. Since assuming the command in North Carolina, I have kept strict watch over this matter, and frequently advised General Foster respecting the progress of the work on the iron-clad. I suggested the propriety of burning it in August, but the general did not feel very apprehensive, and replied that the troops at our command would not warrant the enterprise.

The fortifications at Plymouth have been pushed with great vigor, and I have added materially to the armament. A water battery is in progress for a 200-pounder rifle with a center-pintle carriage, which will complete the river works. While waiting for the 200-pounder I have moved a 100-pounder from Hatteras, which is the only available gun of the kind in North Carolina. I do not feel very apprehensive unless the ram moves in conjunction with a land force.

Doubtless General Foster advised you that he had withdrawn all the best and available troops in North Carolina. There is no reserve force here, nor in any of the sub-districts. In case of an advance upon the lines, the force would be quite too small for a proper defense.

December 26, 1863, I wrote Major-General Butler, viz :

If Longstreet is well provided for during the inactivity of Grant and Meade and the quiet of General Gilmore, some forces could be collected for rebel enterprises in North Carolina during our destitute condition.

After the attack on New Berne, about the 1st of February, I wrote as follows :

In view of the great interests at stake in the State, and of the smallness of the force for its protection, I hope one regiment of cavalry and a brigade of infantry may be sent to me. A large force is much needed, and should be sent, if it can be spared without jeopardizing public interests elsewhere.

February 13, I wrote, viz :

My information is of such a nature as to induce the belief that Jeff. Davis has decided upon recovering New Berne and the sounds, probably as a preliminary step to Lee's retrograde movement in the spring. Both rams are expected down the Neuse and Roanoke, in conjunction with land troops. It seems certain that the one at Kinston is intended to come down on the next high water.

February 18, I wrote, viz :

On receiving most reliable information of the organization of a naval brigade for opening these sounds with the aid of the rams in Neuse and Roanoke Rivers, I directed the blocking up of the Neuse with old hulks within range of our batteries. This work is now in progress. I then proceeded to Little Washington and perfected similar arrangements in the Tar River, and fully advised all the authorities of the rebel plans, and gave the necessary orders for foiling them to the extent of our means. Since my return I have examined men respecting the ram at Kinston, and their information is positive, reliable, and confirmatory of what I have advised you. The ram is to be sent down on the next high water. The engine has been taken from Pugh's Mills, and was once in a factory in this city.

February 23, I wrote, viz :

Your letter of the 20th has just reached me, and I agree with your views except in one particular, viz, I don't believe in the iron-clad. Hitherto it has been a question of iron and time. A communication from General Wessells of the same date

as yours settles the matter, in my judgment. His spy has just come in from Halifax. He came from Wilmington, and 25,000 pounds of iron was on the same train for this identical gun-boat.

The general writes that other parties from near Garysburg, who have not seen the boat, confirm the reports of the shipment of iron. He adds the following: "In view of the possibility of such a monster coming down, it would be well, I think, to procure the hulks, if practicable, and cause them to be sunk in suitable places."

Every day and hour brings testimony bearing upon the plan of the Confederate authorities for driving us out of the "Old North State." It has been substantially communicated by me. The present intention is to attack us so soon as the gun-boat can get down. Mr. Hall visited the ram on Monday this week, and confirms all that has been reported. Her machinery is all in, and she is about ready. Mr. Hall is about fifty-five years of age, of intelligence and extensive acquaintance, and has come back with his family.

February 29, I wrote, viz:

He is now removing the blockade and obstructions, some 6 miles below Kinston, for the purpose of bringing the ram and boat flotilla to this city. The ram in the Roanoke is expected to be in condition to co-operate; the one at Kinston is virtually completed, and on the first flood will come down. They are so confident of success in the Neuse that General Pickett will not delay for the one at Halifax.

March 7, I wrote, viz:

Colonel McChesney on the 5th states that all the contrabands agree that there is a large force at Kinston, and also at Greenville, and that the obstructions below Kinston are being removed.

March 12, I wrote, viz:

He states that some 400 men were put to work on the gun-boat by Pickett on his return, with instructions to complete her as soon as possible, and before the 14th, the anniversary of the fall of New Berne. The boat is virtually done, and two additional guns for her arrived last Tuesday, making four in all. He was at the blockade, and it has been all removed and the channel staked out. He thinks they have great faith in the ram, and fully intend an attack when there is a freshet.

I had hoped a sufficient force might be sent here to enable me to take the offensive and give the State a chance to break away from the rotten Confederacy, when the people would rally around the army of deliverance and the Union. This hope is long deferred I fear.

March 18, I wrote, viz:

A few weeks since I advised you of the return of a man sent out by General Wessells to procure information concerning the ram at Halifax. He was on a train that carried some 25,000 pounds of iron from Wilmington to Halifax. Yesterday several refugees came in from Wilmington. One of them had been in the Colraine foundry at Wilmington since the commencement of the war. He is from Indiana. He says several shipments of iron have been made to Halifax and Kinston for the gun-boats, and confirms the report made to General Wessells. Some of the iron has been made near Atlanta, where the Confederates have extensive works.

March 29, I wrote, viz:

My spy came in from Kinston last evening, having been out seven days. He says the two iron-clads are to act in conjunction, and when the enemy is ready we will be attacked. The water has risen in the river and the iron-clad is afloat at Kinston.

April 14, I wrote, viz:

General Harland reports no change in his front on the 12th instant. His letter has the following, which I extract:

"John Wolfenden, who lives about 2 miles from Fort Jack, says that he was up toward Greenville last Sunday and saw Captain Myers, of Whitford's regiment. He says that Myers told him that the ram at Kinston was completed, and that the only delay was in the construction of the small boats to take her over the shoals. He thought everything would be ready in less than a week. I think his account of his conversation with Myers can be relied on."

General Butler and Admiral Lee examined a courier of General Pickett's, and he was sent to me March 8. He stated:

Impression when he left was that New Berne would be attacked when the ram was done. General Hoke said it was a pity they had not waited for the ram, as New Berne might have been taken without trouble.

General Hoke placed 300 men at work on the iron-clads.

Major-General Butler wrote February 20, in response to this and much more information, viz: "I don't believe in the iron-clad."

On the 9th March he wrote, viz:

I have laid your previous dispatches before General Halleck, and he tells me that he knows of no troops that can be spared for our department, so we must work along as we are.

On the 9th March he wrote as follows:

With the force you have, we shall expect you to hold North Carolina against all comers. Don't let the army get frightened at the ram. She must have at least 2 feet of water to float in, and with proper vigilance you can take care of her.

This command has been depleted from time to time, until on the day of the attack at Plymouth there were only about 10,000 men for duty in the whole district, scattered from the banks below Fort Macon to Plymouth, guarding long lines and many posts.

### FORTIFICATIONS AND THEIR ARMAMENTS.

About the 1st of March there was strong reason to believe that an attack in conjunction with an iron-clad was meditated on New Berne. Works of vital importance were ordered, and a few rifled guns were called for to arm them. To the letter disapproving of these works as not required, I replied March 27, viz:

General Foster's plan of defense on my arrival (in August) depended upon the presence of a goodly number of gun-boats, which should command the interior of his flank works, Stevenson, Anderson, and Spinola, and sweep the ground in front of the crémaillère line, and also on the other side of the Trent about Amory and Gaston.

Upon calling his attention to the uncertain nature of the naval defenses he assured me that he would send six army gun-boats, and in a measure render the army independent. In view of this announcement the naval force was materially reduced, as well as the land force, and the expected army boats did not arrive. Under these circumstances I proposed a small work (Fort Chase) across the river, the strengthening of Anderson, and the short face on the water side of Spinola.

General Foster never expected a water attack, much less by an iron-clad (which he attempted to burn at White Hall), or he would not have made wooden gun-boats an important element in his defensive system. Consequently, when attack may be looked for by an army and iron-clad, some slight modifications are essential to security.

In the latter part of February two iron-clads were near completion, and all information from all quarters indicated a grand combined attack upon New Berne. The senior naval officer had some four gun-boats for this river, which he regarded as mere shells, and only fit for the Coast Survey service. For a few days the Eutaw was here. In the interviews with Commanders Davenport and Blake, both agreed that the shots from the iron-clad at the obstructions would pass through their steamers with the greatest ease. They also conceded that the Whitworth guns had far greater ranges than any at their command. Commander Blake assured me that he would take position on the right of the crémaillère line, and let the Eutaw sink if necessary for the security of that flank. Under the circumstances I deem it judicious, in common with officers of rank, to attempt to hold that flank with earthen walls, rather than depend upon wooden ones.

The senior engineer traced out a small redoubt, using the old lines, and giving a face upon the river. It was done quickly. A 100-pounder rifle is in the salient, with two 32-pounders sweeping the dead angle in front of the crémaillère line between the line of fire of Rowan and the river. The army and navy appreciate the importance of this work, which I brought to your notice on the 12th instant.

## FORT AMORY.

The Trent River is a very weak feature in the defenses of New Berne, compelling two distinct lines dependent for communication upon a bridge, liable to be burned at any moment, and giving the enemy the opportunity of concentrating upon either line. Last summer the river was guarded by one or two gun-boats which afforded a measure of protection to the small works, Amory and Gaston, exposed to assault from their advanced positions. These works are located upon the high ground where the bank is bluff, permitting a flotilla of small boats or a column of infantry to pass with comparative security in dark and stormy weather. Upon an examination with General Palmer and Colonel Dutton, something was deemed essential for the Trent side. This conviction was greatly strengthened by the information that the officers do not like to have their gun-boats in the Trent. The absence of the naval element and the expectation of an early attack, decided that a slight extension of Amory was imperatively demanded. Colonel Dutton, one of the most accomplished engineers in the service and of great experience, has looked after this work. It will command the Trent, and have a cross-fire upon all the approaches to Fort Totten, besides making us independent of gun-boats in that quarter.

## ORDNANCE.

The preceding observations upon the general system of defense apply with equal force to the armament of the fortifications. While no water attack was expected the old ordnance in North Carolina, when I assumed command, would have sufficed. Not so now. Two iron-clads menace us, and may at any moment attempt to recover the command of the sounds, in conjunction with land forces. In view of this sudden revolution in the rebel means of attack, what artillery has this army which can be depended upon to destroy these iron-clads in the absence of Federal iron-clads? It has only seven suitable rifles, six of which were here when no iron boats were dreamed of. A 200-pounder and 100-pounder are at Plymouth. A 100-pounder is at Hatteras, two are at Fort Macon, and two at New Berne.

In case the iron-clad passes Plymouth, Roanoke Island and Hatteras will be visited. One rifle is needed at Hatteras, to replace the one moved to Plymouth, and one at Macon, to replace the gun removed to New Berne. Guns are burst and otherwise crippled in active service, and there should be at this depot at least one or two extra for such contingencies. The Southfield burst a 100-pounder in extricating the Bombshell in the Chowan.

On the 24th, Commander Flusser was expecting the iron-clad and an attack at Plymouth, and wrote to Commander Davenport urgently for a 100-pounder rifle for the Southfield. Had I an extra gun I could have served our naval friends at a time when it would have been appreciated.

If these considerations have any force at all, the number of (seven) guns asked for by the ordnance officer on the 14th instant is quite as small as is proper. What has been done are such modifications as seemed imperatively called for in view of the public interest intrusted to me. Had they not been made, and disaster befallen us, the Government, and the major-general commanding the department, would not have excused me for delaying to communicate with the engineer officer at Fort Monroe.

*Conclusion.*—The criticisms in the letter on "Fortifications and armaments" are based upon principles, and are unanswerable. The views set forth on the 29th March have been verified in the clearest manner by the fall of Plymouth. The defenses on the left of Fort Williams (the central work) consist of open works, and are dependent upon the gun-boats. The gun-boats were forced out of the river, the iron-clads attacked these works in rear, and they soon became untenable. The land forces entered the town on that flank. Had all the works been inclosed, the results would have been very different. When we were at Plymouth I called your attention to this feature of the system of defense.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.*

SYRACUSE, N. Y., *May* 23, 1864.

There is much in this report* that the honorable Secretary of War should see, and as I am no longer in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, I hasten to transmit the same, with the request that General Butler be furnished a copy.

On the 4th instant Col. F. Beach, U. S. Army, second in command at Plymouth, reported to me in person that Major-General Hoke informed General Wessells and himself that the works I had constructed since Pickett's demonstration on New Berne in February saved that place from attack at that time. The works referred to are those pronounced unnecessary by General Butler. In my correspondence the belief is uniformly expressed that the Confederates would attempt to drive us from Eastern North Carolina.

In February Pickett attacked Batchelder's Creek, Croatan, Havelock, Newport, and other places, threatening New Berne. Other plans were interfered with or delayed. The loss of Plymouth and Little Washington was promptly followed by a campaign for New Berne. The following letter is pertinent, and verifies my predictions:

MAY 3, 1864.

General WALKER:

GENERAL: I have just learned from Captain Cooke, commanding the iron-clad Albemarle, who writes that he feels satisfied that the boat can stand the sound, and will be with us. I will move at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning, and will communicate with you at Pollocksville, on the river bank, as soon as I reach that point. I desire you to move at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning and proceed to Pollocksville, and while your column is resting there you will construct a bridge over Mill Creek. You will have 2 miles less to march than my column in going to Pollocksville.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
*Major-General.*

Hoke's forces, estimated at 12,000, left the vicinity of New Berne on the 6th for Richmond, and New Berne is still ours.

Major-General Butler did not believe any demonstrations would be made upon my command at any time, and adhered to this theory up to my withdrawal, as will be seen from the following extract:

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, &C.,
*Fortress Monroe, May* 3, 1864.

Major-General PECK:

GENERAL: Your note of the 24th of April reached my hand to-day, and I hasten to reply. Your being relieved from New Berne by me in no manner implies any censure upon your action or disapproval of your administration, and was determined upon many days before the order was actually sent, and before it was known or believed that there would be any demonstration upon your command by the enemy. That order was delayed by the necessities of the service in other movements of the department, which are solely subjects of explanation.

With sentiments of respect and esteem, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

General L. THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.*

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*Preceding.

*ADDENDA.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 66. } HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N. C., April* 21, 1864.

With feelings of the deepest sorrow the commanding general announces the fall of Plymouth, N. C., and the capture of the gallant commander, Brig. Gen. H. W. Wessells, and his command. This result, however, did not obtain until after the most gallant and determined resistance had been made. Five times the enemy stormed the lines of the general, and as many times were they handsomely repulsed with great slaughter, and but for the powerful assistance of the rebel iron-clad ram and the floating iron sharpshooter battery, the Cotton Plant, Plymouth would still have been in our hands.

For their noble defense the gallant General Wessells and his brave band deserve the warmest thanks of the whole country, while all will sympathize with them in their misfortune.

To the officers and men of the navy the commanding general tenders his thanks for their hearty co-operation with the army and the bravery, determination, and coolness that marked their part of the unequal contest.

With sorrow he records the death of the noble sailor and gallant patriot, Lieut. Commander C. W. Flusser, U. S. Navy, who in the heat of battle fell dead on the deck of his ship, with the lanyard of his gun in his hand.

The commanding general believes that these misfortunes will tend not to discourage but to nerve the Army of North Carolina to equal deeds of bravery and gallantry hereafter.

Until further orders, the headquarters of the Sub-district of the Albemarle will be at Roanoke Island.

The command devolves upon Col. D. W. Wardrop, of the Ninety-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry.

By command of Maj. Gen. John J. Peck:

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 3.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Henry W. Wessells, U. S. Army, commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle.*

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE,
*Plymouth, N. C., April* 17, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform you that I am attacked by a heavy force of the enemy. Citizens from above state that there are five brigades. I am obliged to send before his plans are fully developed, in order to meet the boat at the canal to-morrow. My line of pickets were forced back at 4 p. m. to-day; an officer and 1 man killed, and 5 or 6 taken prisoners. Citizens also report that the iron-clad is as low down as Williamston, but as yet she has not shown herself. A battery of four or six guns has been planted above Fort Gray, and until dark kept up a vigorous fire. The flag-staff was shot away.

My men are in good spirits, but we have not enough, and I beg leave to refer you to my communication of a few days since, addressed to Major-General Peck.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. WESSELLS,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

The enemy's line is within a mile of this position, and I anticipate artillery firing at daylight. The gun-boat Ceres has lost 2 men killed and some wounded by a shell. It is reported that a large force of the enemy is in the neighborhood of Edenton, said to be 1,200. It is not well stated to me, but believed in Edenton.

H. W. W.

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COOPERSTOWN, N. Y., *August* 18, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that on the 20th of April last I was compelled to surrender the post of Plymouth, N. C., to a superior rebel force, and now report to you the circumstances, as follows:

For some months previous to the date above mentioned, I felt satisfied, from information derived from various sources, that a vigorous effort on the part of the enemy would be made to wrest the State of North Carolina from our possession. This opinion was expressed to you in frequent communications, with the hope that the military force would be strengthened, and that at least one iron-clad gun-boat would be added to the naval squadron for the protection of the sounds and rivers. My expectations were fully confirmed by the movement of General Pickett upon New Berne in February, and although this attempt resulted in failure, the enemy still remained in strong force along the line of the Neuse, evidently with further designs. During the month of April conflicting reports were brought as to the movements of the enemy; at one time he was said to be concentrating on the Roanoke, at another on the Tar River, threatening both Plymouth and Washington, when, on the 13th, my information was so positive as to the former that I at once requested from department headquarters direct a re-enforcement of 5,000 men, believing they could not be spared from the North Carolina stations.

On the 16th the gun-boat Tacony, Lieutenant-Commander Truxtun, arrived from New Berne, and having in the mean time learned that no considerable force of the enemy was on the Roanoke, but rather threatening Washington from some point on the Tar River, I permitted her to return on the following morning, April 17, and this decision is to be regretted. At 4 o'clock of that day the extreme mounted patrol on the Washington road was captured by an advanced guard of the enemy's cavalry, and the cavalry outpost dispersed and driven in; a re-enforcement, under Lieutenant Russell, Twelfth New York Cavalry, was also compelled to retire, bringing away that officer severely wounded. The infantry outposts were at once strengthened, and the enemy soon began to appear on the Washington road in great force, having made a forced march of near 30 miles in hopes of making a complete surprise. This design failed, as our line of skirmishers remained steady. Fort Gray, 2 miles

above and on the river bank, was assailed at the same time, sustaining until dark a heavy cannonade. The garrison, composed of detachments of Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers and Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Captains Brown and Fiske, though much annoyed by sharpshooters, returned the fire of the enemy with great vigor, and, with the exception of a few casualties, no impression was made on the work. The line of defense extended from Fort Gray to the crossing of Coneby Creek, below the town, a distance of 2½ miles, the former being a detached work, separated from the main line by Welch's Creek and its marsh. The garrison was distributed along this line, and composed as follows: Sixteenth Connecticut Volunteers, Col. Francis Beach, 400 effective men; Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers, Col. E. Fardella, 450; One hundred and first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieut. Col. A. W. Taylor, 300; One hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. T. F. Lehmann, 400; Twenty-fourth New York Independent Battery, six guns, Captain Cady; detachment from Companies A and F, Twelfth New York Cavalry, Captain Roche, and two companies Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, under Captain Sampson, the latter being distributed in small detachments in the several earth-works. There were also present portions of two companies Second North Carolina Volunteers, native troops, under Captains Johnson and Haggard. The naval force at that time consisted of the gun-boats Miami, Lieut. Commander Charles W. Flusser, U. S. Navy, one of Kentucky's most noble and chivalrous sons; Southfield, Lieutenant French, volunteer service, with the smaller boats, Whitehead and Ceres; the whole under the direction of Captain Flusser.

For several months previous it had been well understood that iron-plated boats for operations in the sounds were in course of construction near Halifax on the Roanoke, and Kinston on the Neuse, to move down those rivers at the proper time in conjunction with a land force. Work on the former had been so often delayed for want of plates and other causes that its completion at times seemed doubtful, but was too well watched for me to obtain positive and reliable information. On the 10th of April, however, it was generally believed that the Albemarle, though not entirely covered with plating, had been floated down as far as the enemy's works at Rainbow Banks.

It was the design of Captain Flusser to fight this formidable antagonist in the river with his own boat lashed to the Southfield, running in at close quarters, whilst the Whitehead was to use every effort to disable her propeller, and great confidence was felt as to the result of this plan.

The line of defense surrounding the town was divided into three nearly equal portions, the right commanded by Colonel Fardella, the center by Colonel Lehmann, the left subdivision being under the direction of Colonel Beach. Eighty-fifth Redoubt, so named from the regiment by which it was constructed, was a small detached work in front of the right, garrisoned by detachments of Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery and Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers, commanded by Captain Chapin, of the latter regiment. The attacking force, as was subsequently ascertained, consisted of Hoke's, Ransom's, and Kemper's brigades (the latter commanded by Colonel Mercer), all veteran regiments, mostly from Virginia and North Carolina. This division was accompanied by several formidable field batteries and a suitable force of cavalry. Until dark of the

17th sharp skirmishing was kept up on the Washington road, extending across the fields nearly to the Acre road, but without any important result, and the night was passed in comparative quiet. The enemy was too strong to attempt a sortie with any hope of success.

On the following morning at daylight a severe cannonade was opened against Fort Gray, resulting in some fatal casualties, but the garrison remained firm, replying vigorously to the enemy's fire. The 200-pounder in Battery Worth was also brought to bear in that direction, but without any decided effect. The armed transport Bombshell, in communicating with Fort Gray, received several shots below her water-line, being barely able to return to town, when she sank at the wharf. The transport Massasoit made two trips to Roanoke Island, carrying away a large number of women and children, contrabands, and other non-combatants. The gun-boat Ceres, being above Fort Gray at the time of its investment, passed down the river under a destructive fire and rejoined the squadron, with a loss of 9 men killed and wounded. During the whole of this day incessant skirmishing was maintained along and between the main approaches in front of the town, at a distance of 1,200 yards from the line of defense, but soon after sunset the enemy advanced his batteries, supported by an overwhelming force, and appearances indicated a general attack. Our line of skirmishers fell back firing and in good order, and the enemy under cover of darkness opened a furious cannonade upon the town in every direction. This fire was replied to by Captain Sampson from Fort Williams with great coolness and precision, inflicting heavy damage and loss upon the enemy. Finding our front too well prepared for an assault, the attack was discontinued at about 8 o'clock, and the attention of the enemy directed toward Eighty-fifth Redoubt. This work, after a desperate resistance, was surrendered, and, as I have understood, under a threat of no quarter. Its gallant commander, Captain Chapin, Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers, fell nobly at his post, and Colonel Mercer, commanding the attacking column, was killed. No report has been received in regard to this transaction, and I am therefore unable to detail the circumstances attending either the attack or surrender. A demand was then made for the surrender of the town, which was declined.

On the following morning, April 19, at 3 a. m., the enemy again opened upon Fort Gray, and soon after, under cover of night and shadow of the trees on the opposite bank, the iron-plated ram Albemarle passed down unnoticed and without injury from the 200-pounder in Battery Worth. She was immediately engaged by the Miami and Southfield. I have no particulars in regard to this conflict, but the Southfield was sunk by the collision, and Lieutenant-Commander Flusser fell on his own quarter-deck with a lanyard in his hand. In the death of this accomplished sailor the Navy has lost one of its brightest ornaments, and he will be long remembered by those who knew and loved him for his intellectual worth, his social qualities, and manly bearing.

The wooden gun-boats, being unable to contend with an antagonist so securely mailed, moved down the river, leaving it in full possession of the enemy. He was now on every side of the town, and this unlooked-for disaster created among the troops a moral effect of the most discouraging character. Hitherto every hardship and exposure had been met with cheerfulness and confidence. A series of

covered excavations had been constructed along the line, affording shelter under the heavy fire, causing my loss to be comparatively slight. During this day the enemy planted a battery near the Eighty-fifth Redoubt, and, partly covered by that work, opened fire upon the town. The Albemarle also opened from below; both were returned from Fort Williams and Battery Worth, but without effect. The enemy was very active, moving in different directions, withdrawing most of his force from the vicinity of Fort Gray, and apparently making a serious demonstration on my right. Skirmishing was severe in that quarter, and many casualties occurred on both sides. This state of things continued until dark, when the enemy in strong force succeeded in effecting the crossing of Coneby Creek below the town, and massed his column on my left. This disaster is unexplained, and placed me in a most critical position. Some changes were made during that night in the disposition of the troops, and arrangements made to repel attack both on the right and left.

At daylight of the following day, April 20, while my right and front were seriously threatened, the enemy advanced rapidly against my left, assaulting and carrying the line in that quarter, penetrating the town along the river, and capturing Battery Worth. A line of infantry was formed from the breast-works perpendicularly toward the river, in hopes of staying the advance. This effort succeeded for a time, but the troops seemed discouraged, and finally fell back to the intrenchments. At the request of General Hoke, commanding the rebel forces, a personal interview was granted, at which a surrender was demanded in consideration of my untenable position, of the impossibility of relief, and that the defense had been highly honorable to all concerned. In failure of this, indiscriminate slaughter was intimated. The bearing of General Hoke during this interview was courteous and soldierlike. His demand was refused, and preparations were made to renew the contest. I was now completely enveloped on every side, Fort Williams, an inclosed work in the center of the line, being my only hope. This was well understood by the enemy, and in less than an hour a cannonade of shot and shell was opened upon it from four different directions. This terrible fire had to be endured without reply, as no man could live at the guns. The breast-height was struck by solid shot on every side, fragments of shells sought almost every interior angle of the work, the whole extent of the parapet was swept by musketry, and men were killed and wounded even on the banquette slope. A covered excavation had been previously constructed, to which the wounded were conveyed, where they received efficient medical attention. This condition of affairs could not be long endured without a reckless sacrifice of life; no relief could be expected, and in compliance with the earnest desire of every officer I consented to hoist a white flag, and at 10 a. m. of April 20 I had the mortification of surrendering my post to the enemy with all it contained. It is to be remarked that during the siege and in the night a considerable number of North Carolina soldiers (many of them deserters from the enemy, and all of them fearing bad treatment in the event of capture) left their companies without authority, escaping in canoes, being picked up, as I have understood, by our boats in the sound.

The foregoing statement is made, after an interval of four months, entirely from memory, not having received a single report from my subordinate officers. Most of them are still in captivity, and the others scattered over the country beyond my control; in fact, they

have had no opportunity until now to perform this duty. Myself and officers were plundered of all our effects except such as were on our persons; in other respects I was treated by General Hoke and his officers with kindness and courtesy.

For the reason stated above I am unable to report the losses on either side, but I have reason to believe that my own casualties did not exceed 150, while from information derived by medical officers, who remained in Plymouth, the lowest loss of the enemy in killed and wounded is given at 850, many believing it to be far greater.

With my personal staff I was at once separated from the troops, and on Saturday, the 23d, I was conveyed to Richmond via Weldon and Petersburg, and then confined in Libby prison April 26. The enlisted men, with the regimental officers, were marched to Tarborough, and thence by rail to Macon and Andersonville, Ga. On the 7th of May, in company with 850 captive officers, I was conveyed to Danville. Leaving that place on the 12th I was taken to Macon, and there confined until the 10th of June. On that day 50 senior officers, including myself, were ordered to proceed east, and passing through Savannah arrived in Charleston on the 12th. At this place the party was confined in the city under the fire of the batteries at Morris Island. No inconvenience, however, was experienced from this unusual proceeding. On the 3d of the present month an exchange was effected under the direction of Major-General Foster, commanding Department of the South, and with the whole party I arrived in New York on the 9th.

It may be proper to state that a few days prior to the completion of this exchange a detachment of officers, prisoners of war, numbering 600, arrived in Charleston from Macon and were confined in the city jail and its yard. I visited them in the evening of the 2d, and found them very uncomfortable, being much crowded and poorly sheltered. I was assured, however, by the rebel authorities that this condition was only temporary, and that they should be soon removed to more suitable quarters.

As soon as sub-reports are received and examined they will be forwarded as accompaniments to this statement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. WESSELLS,
*Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.*

Maj. Gen. J. J. PECK,
*Late Commanding District of North Carolina.*

NOTE.—In the foregoing report I have neglected to state that on the morning of the 19th, subsequent to the marine disaster, Capt. H. I. Hodges, assistant quartermaster of volunteers, in endeavoring to communicate with the gun-boats, was accidentally drowned by the upsetting of a canoe; no further information in regard to his fate has ever reached me. I should also add that on the following day, during the bombardment of Fort Williams, Captain Coats, Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general of the subdistrict, was severely wounded in the face by a fragment of shell. It is difficult for me at this time without the aid of subordinate reports to detail with accuracy all the incidents of the siege, and other important omissions may have been made.

H. W. W.

*ADDENDA.*

*Return of casualties in the Union forces commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry W. Wessells, at Plymouth, N. C., April 17–20, 1864.*

| Commands. | Officers. | Men. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Staff | 10 | ..... | 10 |
| 16th Connecticut | 23 | 440 | 463 |
| 2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Companies G and H | 7 | 262 | 269 |
| 2d North Carolina, Companies B and E | 4 | 162 | 166 |
| 12th New York Cavalry, Companies A and F | 3 | 118 | 121 |
| 85th New York | 26 | 518 | 544 |
| 24th New York Battery | 2 | 120 | 122 |
| 101st Pennsylvania | 27 | 382 | 409 |
| 103d Pennsylvania | 24 | 461 | 485 |
| Unattached recruits | 1 | 244 | 245 |
| Total killed, wounded, and missing | 127 | 2,707 | 2,834 |

No. 4.

*Report of Lieut. Lucien A. Butts, Eighty-fifth New York Infantry.*

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *April* 5, 1865.

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I inclose to you a report, made from such memoranda as I could make after I reached Macon, of the defense of the redoubt in which I was captured. I have not yet received the report from Lieutenant Clark I expected to send with this. I arrived here from Richmond the 27th ultimo, having escaped from Charlotte, N. C., and been recaptured at Fayetteville. I am awaiting an order for muster-out on account of expiration of my time of service, the order being very disagreeably delayed some days after the reception by others of theirs applied for at the same time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. A. BUTTS,
*First Lieutenant Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers.*

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *April* 1, 1865.

GENERAL: I have the honor, at this earliest practicable time after my release from prison, to report the operations at the Eighty-fifth Redoubt, Plymouth, N. C., preceding the surrender of that work, April 18, 1864, the command, by the mortal wounding of Capt. Nelson Chapin, having fallen upon me as senior officer present.

The garrison of the redoubt consisted of 42 enlisted men of Company K, Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers, with its officers, Capt. N. Chapin, Lieut. L. A. Butts, and Second Lieut. S. S. Peake, and 23 enlisted men of Company H, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, commanded by Second Lieut. H. L. Clark. Its armament was a light 32-pounder on a ship carriage, and an old-pattern iron 6-pounder field piece. Occasional shots were made from our guns as parties of the enemy made their appearance in the vicinity of the Washington road after our pickets were driven in on the evening of the 17th and the morning of the 18th. About 10 a. m. of the 18th three rifled guns opened fire from near the Fagan house upon our pickets near

the redoubt, replying also to our guns. During two hours or more good practice was apparently made by our 32-pounder against these guns. No damage was done to the redoubt, though several shells struck it. Firing was discontinued during the greater part of the afternoon until near night, when a few shells were thrown upon the line of battle advancing upon our skirmishers between the Washington and Long Acre roads. While our attention was drawn in this direction, a battery was brought into position in the field on the southern front of the redoubt, which opened a rapid fire before our large gun could be shifted to bear upon it. The 6-pounder only could be used. It was well served under a close fire, two of the infantry helping to man it at the last in place of the artillery, who failed to come to the work. One of its earliest discharges exploded a caisson. Under cover of the fire of this battery, and nearly hidden in the obscurity of the night by the ground descending toward the swamp, and by the proximity of the woods, a heavy column of infantry was advanced to assault the redoubt. This column was opened upon by our musketry when about 100 yards distant, but it advanced steadily and soon enveloped the redoubt on every side, pouring in a heavy fire. The abatis was soon penetrated, when hand-grenades were used by us, apparently with great effect, as the attacking force soon retired, to rally again, however, in a short time. This was three or four times repeated, but with little order or success in getting through the abatis. The enemy finally passed in line toward the town, leaving some stragglers in our vicinity. Twenty-six of these, some of them wounded, but mostly unhurt, surrendered in small squads, and were assisted to scale the walls into the redoubt. Our loss in repelling this assault was 1 killed and 8 wounded (3 mortally). The wounded included the only competent gunners fit for duty.

After an interval of about half an hour, several guns opened upon the redoubt from a knoll about 250 yards from the south wall, and two or three guns at a distance of 100 yards, opposite the southwest corner, the fire from the two positions crossing at a right angle. The last-named guns were placed under the bank of the swamp, so that neither of ours could bear upon them. The darkness prevented the enemy from being seen while placing his guns, and an attempt to use our field piece where a movement could be heard was abandoned after one or two discharges as useless. The enemy's sharpshooters were active while their batteries played upon the redoubt. The small building in the corner of the work, upon which the fire was concentrated, proved a source of great danger. The percussion shells from the enemy's guns struck its roof and chimney, exploding and sending deadly missiles to nearly every part of the redoubt. Captain Chapin was struck by a fragment of one of these shells during the second cannonade, about 9.30 o'clock. The fire was also very effective upon the walls of the redoubt, penetrating deep and throwing off much earth by the explosions. The sand-bags were broken and thrown off the parapet, so as to destroy the loop-holes on the sides of attack. After the second cannonade had been some time continued, fire was opened in that direction by our gun-boats, but their shells passed over and exploded far beyond the enemy's batteries. Some shells from the town seemed to be better elevated and better timed, but were without apparent effect. The last two shells from the gun-boats struck and exploded, one on the parapet, the other upon the traverse covering the door of the magazine, both in perfect range for the magazine. Shortly after the firing ceased,

and demand was made for a surrender. The officers present, including Captain Chapin, were consulted before replying. A large force was known to be between the redoubt and the town, cutting off communication. The cartridges were nearly expended, only half a dozen grenades were left, our gunners were disabled, the prisoners were a great embarrassment; there were no means of spiking the guns or of making signals. There appeared in the darkness no hope of efficient help from the gun-boats or from the town batteries, and the fire received from the gun-boats, if repeated, left no safe place in the work. It was unanimously decided to be a useless waste of life to continue the contest longer, and that it was best to surrender. Possession of the work was given about 11 p. m.

The total casualties in Company K, Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers, were Capt. N. Chapin mortally wounded, 1 sergeant killed, and 3 other enlisted men wounded (1 mortally); and of Company H, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 6 wounded (2 supposed mortally).

I cannot speak too highly of the spirit and conduct of the men of my own company, to whom, in the subordinate position I held during the greater part of the engagement, my attention was principally confined. No fear of their readiness to fight as long as required was among the considerations leading to the surrender. Wagoner Dana E. Allen and Private Nason F. Chace were especially worthy of praise for their bravery in helping to man the guns when partially deserted, the first, after he was himself wounded.

For the details of the operations of the artillery of the redoubt, and a report of the conduct of the men of that service, I refer you to the report of Lieutenant Clark.

I am able to learn no more of Captain Chapin after he was left in care of the enemy than that he died at some temporary hospital, or on his way to one, before morning.

The force making the assault was Kemper's brigade and the Twenty-first Georgia Regiment, all led by Colonel Mercer, of the Twenty-first Georgia, who was killed before the redoubt. We were told that the enemy lost before the redoubt 60 in killed alone, and a large number of wounded. Appearances in the vicinity, so well as we could judge in the darkness, indicated that they had lost severely.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. A. BUTTS,
*First Lieutenant Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Late Commanding District of the Albemarle, N. C.*

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No. 5.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 22,* 1864—10 p. m.

MAJOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by Captain Martin, of the communication from the commanding general of the department of yesterday, the 21st instant.

As the vessel which carries this dispatch is about to proceed to Roanoke for the purpose of bringing back the First U. S. Colored Troops, and as I wish to have her sail as speedily as possible, I will simply state, viz, that it was not until the evening of the 20th that

I received a special order directing me to assume command of this district. I presumed that General Peck had been notified of this order, but as during the whole of yesterday, 21st instant, General Peck had not intimated to me any knowledge of the order, I thought it proper to inclose him a copy of it, and in a conversation which I have had with him this day he has declared his readiness to turn over the command.

You have probably before this time received General Peck's dispatch announcing the capture of Plymouth with its garrison on the 20th instant. The rebels will either hold it or evacuate it. If they attempt to hold it, I shall make no attempt to recapture it at present, and if they evacuate it, I shall not re-establish a post there at present. The mouth of the Roanoke River will be held by our gunboats, and I am of the opinion that the rebel ram, which has been the principal cause of the fall of Plymouth, will not be able to get out into the sounds.

It is my impression that the success of the attack upon Plymouth will induce the rebels to attack Little Washington. That place has in it a respectable force, and will, I think, be able to resist any attack, although I do not consider the garrison sufficiently large if it be attacked by the force that has captured Plymouth. At present, however, no further re-enforcements can be sent to that place from here. At this place, exclusive of the outposts, the troops for its defense consist only of the garrisons of the different forts, with five companies of infantry (white) and a portion (250 men) of the Twenty-fifth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, all the other troops having been sent to re-enforce either Washington, Plymouth, or Roanoke Island. I do not consider that it was necessary to re-enforce Roanoke Island, and I shall therefore withdraw the re-enforcements that were sent to that place by General Peck's order, and order them again to this place.

The rebels are making every preparation to bring the ram, which has been for some time at Kinston, down the river. I am kept constantly advised of the progress of the work upon it. She is completed, and a few days since a party was sent by the rebels to sound the channel, coming as low down as the blockade which we have constructed. The work upon this blockade is pushed day and night, and it will be made as effectual as possible. It is under the fire of several heavy guns and carefully watched.

The First U. S. Colored Troops will be forwarded to Fortress Monroe at the earliest possible moment. The steamers that leave tonight will probably return with that portion of the regiment that went to Roanoke by the morning of the 24th instant. The Twenty-third New York Battery will also be withdrawn from Washington and sent to Fortress Monroe at the earliest possible moment.

I regret that I can give no particulars of the affair at Plymouth. Colonel Dutton, chief of staff to General Peck, who returned from the mouth of the Roanoke yesterday, informs me that he heard from persons who had escaped that our casualties were small; that the defense was vigorous; that the garrison made prisoners had been sent away, but that General Wessells was on parole in the town.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.*

No. 6.

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of the District of North Carolina for April*, 1864.

*April* 17.—The enemy, with a force estimated from 10,000 to 15,000, under command of Major-General Hoke, advanced on Plymouth, in the Sub-district of the Albemarle, drove in our outposts and pickets, opened a heavy artillery fire on Fort Gray, and made two desperate assaults upon it with infantry and were handsomely repulsed each time.

*April* 18.—The enemy attacked Forts Gray and Williams with a much stronger force and were again completely whipped. The U. S. gun-boat Bombshell was sunk by a shell from a rebel battery.

*April* 19.—The iron-clad ram Albemarle came down the Roanoke River, attacked the U. S. Navy flotilla, ran into the gun-boat Southfield and sunk her, and drove the other vessels out of the river into the sound. The enemy's forces then surrounded the town and made a general assault upon all the forts, the rebel ram co-operating. Our troops being barred from any aid from the navy, and the enemy having the assistance of the powerful ram, he succeeded in capturing Fort Wessells. At all other points he was repulsed with great loss.

*April* 20.—The enemy again attacked Forts Gray and Williams and was partially successful, capturing Fort Gray, but was driven back in great disorder from Fort Williams. Having gained one of our flanks, resting on the river, he succeeded in getting into the town under the protection of his ram and the captured fortifications, and soon had entire possession of the place, capturing all the Government stores in it. Fort Williams was then shelled from every direction, and riflemen were placed in the houses to annoy our cannoneers, but not until after a most valiant resistance of more than two hours against the whole rebel force did the brave garrison surrender. This gave the enemy full possession of the defenses of Plymouth. Re-enforcements arrived at the mouth of the Roanoke River for Plymouth, but being informed there by navy officers that the enemy had possession of the town and that the ram had control of the river, they returned to New Berne. Upon their arrival there they were immediately dispatched to Roanoke Island, and orders were given for the re-establishment of the headquarters of the sub-district at that place.

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No. 7.

*Resolution of thanks by Confederate Congress.*

[No. 3.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to Major-General Hoke and Commander Cooke, and the officers and men under their command, for the brilliant victory over the enemy at Plymouth, N. C.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress and the country are due and are tendered to Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke and Commander James W. Cooke, and the officers and men under their command, for the brilliant victory over the enemy at Plymouth, N. C.

Approved May 17, 1864.

### APRIL 19, 1864.—Affair at Leesburg, Va.

*Report of Col. Charles R. Lowell, jr., Second Massachusetts Cavalry, commanding Cavalry Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Vienna, Va., April* 20, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report my return to camp. The only rebels in Loudoun County are Mosby's four companies, perhaps two companies of the Bedford Cavalry, an incomplete company organizing in Leesburg, and about 40 attached men of White's, and the Sixth and Eleventh Virginia Cavalry.

When the Potomac rose Mosby thought it would be a good time to remove from around Leesburg and Point of Rocks corn which farmers there had been intending to send across the river. He pressed quite a number of teams, sent Company C to Waterford to superintend the business, and has taken away perhaps 250 barrels of corn in the ear; not more, as the farmers are loath to work, and slip off on every opportunity. Meanwhile, he has carefully spread the report below Goose Creek that there was a large force in Loudoun County and several hundred men at least in Leesburg. The only force that has been near Leesburg is his own Company C, and part of a new company raising there, together less than 100 men. He is not sending the corn to Upperville, but to points about the country, some of which we learned. At each of these he has left one or two wagon-loads, whether for his own future use or as a sort of recompense to friends whom he had already eaten out does not appear. While the river is so high, without leaving a force permanently there we cannot prevent this. There is very little corn left to move, however. We reached Leesburg Monday evening and returned to Goose Creek Tuesday noon, bringing 11 prisoners and leaving 1 mortally wounded at a farm-house. That night I expected to send a party to Rectortown or Upperville, to return by Hopewell Gap, but we learned that Mosby in person had been reconnoitering our force, and had gone through Aldie that evening, leaving messages of regard for us with the Union families there. It seemed useless, therefore, to attempt any surprise, so I sent 75 dismounted men to Leesburg to try to take part in a wedding party which was to come off there. They reached the place half an hour too late, but met some of the party on the streets and there was a little smart firing. We lost 1 man killed and 3 wounded, not seriously. Do not know that we did any damage at all. The captain in charge believes his own party, firing without orders in the rear, did at least half the mischief. You will hear from Colonel Grimshaw how he was received when he reached Goose Creek on Monday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. LOWELL, JR.,
*Col. Second Massachusetts Cavalry, Comdg. Brigade.*

Capt. W. A. LA MOTTE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Tyler's Division.*

**APRIL 19, 1864.—Affair at Marling's Bottom, W. Va.**

*Report of Col. William L. Jackson, Nineteenth Virginia Cavalry.*

JACKSON'S RIVER, *April* 20, 1864.
(Received at Christiansburg, 21st.)

Capt. J. W. Marshall, of my command, with his company on yesterday attacked the enemy—125 infantry, 90 cavalry—at Marling's Bottom, Pocahontas County, routed them, and is in pursuit toward Beverly.

WM. L. JACKSON,
*Colonel, &c.*

Maj. CHARLES S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 21, 1864.—Destruction of Salt-Works at Masonborough Inlet, N. C.**

*Report of Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, N. C., April* 22, 1864.

GENERAL: Nine barges of the enemy, piloted by a renegade, landed last night at Masonborough, at the State salt-works, which they destroyed. They carried off a number of conscripts or employés. I do not much regret the matter, as the State salt-works have always been a nest of traitors, and more than suspected of holding intercourse with the enemy, but I have no doubt at all that the attempt was made in consequence of information transmitted to the enemy of the withdrawal of my movable force.

On the 12th instant I had directed General Martin to occupy the belt of sounds opposite Masonborough Inlet, but the recent movement of troops prevented it. It has always been my custom to guard these points strongly, as of very great importance to the security of the command. The enemy carried off a number of willing prisoners. They are capable of giving much information. You will see by the inclosed copy of a letter* to the Governor my opinion of the works and the people engaged on them. The whole affair strongly illustrates the necessity of keeping here at least a brigade at all times. The men carried off were in the habit of daily visiting the city to haul and dispose of salt, are fully aware of the late movements and of every exposed condition, and will no doubt give all the information they have to the enemy.

If your operations will not permit you to leave a brigade with me, I beg you will present this to the Department, which has been fully advised of the circumstances of this command. I have not at present sufficient force to perform the heavy garrison duties of the city.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*Weldon, N. C.*

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*Not found.

**APRIL 23, 1864.—Affair near Hunter's Mills, Va.**

*Report of Col. Charles R. Lowell, jr., Second Massachusetts Cavalry, commanding Cavalry Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Vienna, Va., April 23, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet in this vicinity. The pickets near Hunter's Mills were attacked about 4 a. m. to-day by a dismounted party, with a loss of 9 horses and 3 men captured and 1 man wounded. No resistance was made by the pickets, only three shots being fired. A party started out about reveille this morning, as soon as the news of the attack reached camp, and after finding the trail started after the party in rapid pursuit, came in sight of them about 10 miles of Aldie, and chased them up the pike through the town, the rebels scattering in all directions.

Lieut. W. H. Hunter, of Company A, Mosby's battalion, was taken prisoner during the chase and brought to this camp. Two horses were retaken and one shot. One man was wounded slightly. The party consisted of 50 men, under the command of Mosby himself. They came down to the vicinity of the picket and crossed the creek mounted, where a portion of them dismounted and advanced on foot to the attack.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. R. LOWELL, JR.,
*Col. Second Massachusetts Cavalry, Comdg. Cav. Brig.*

Capt. W. A. LA MOTTE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 24, 1864.—Skirmish near Middletown, Va.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Max Weber, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Maj. Fielding H. Calmese, Twenty-third Virginia Cavalry.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Max Weber, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., April 25, 1864.*

Colonel Taylor reports that the scout of 100 men sent out to ascertain the strength of the enemy at Front Royal met a force of 250 rebels near Middletown, and were driven back as far as Winchester, with loss of 1 officer and 8 or 10 men. A force of infantry, cavalry, and mounted infantry have been sent out by Colonel Taylor to intercept the rebels and ascertain their intentions.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Fielding H. Calmese, Twenty-third Virginia Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOST, *April* 25, 1864.

I have been to Clarke County. Delivered the letter you sent me from General Lee. The Yankees scouted up to Berryville and Summit Point every day in squads of 50 and 75. As I came up yesterday I met Captain Davis in pursuit of the enemy that came as far as Cedar Creek, numbering 100. He charged them at Middletown and pursued them as far as Winchester, capturing the officer in command (Captain Purtrace [?]) and 16 privates, belonging to First New York, Thirteenth Pennsylvania, and Twenty-first New York Regiments. Their force at Martinsburg is small.

F. H. CALMESE,
*Major, Commanding.*

General IMBODEN.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS VALLEY DISTRICT,
*April* 25, 1864—2 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for information of General Lee.

Captain Davis is on outpost duty and seems to have given this Yankee scout a good lesson. Lieutenant Blue was dangerously, perhaps mortally, wounded last Thursday night in an attempt to surprise a Yankee camp at Springfield, in Hampshire. No other casualty on our side. The attack was unsuccessful. Blue's party was 30 strong; enemy about 300. Blue attacked at 6 o'clock at night, hoping to stampede the horses. He was brought off the field 4 miles and left at a house. Averell has not returned, but is west of the Alleghanies. Our danger now lies in the direction of Beverly and Kanawha. I have notified General Breckinridge, and to-day have ordered the Sixty-second Regiment from Franklin to McDowell, and will collect my other forces about Woodstock, to be in readiness to move in either direction. The enemy has been scouting about Sperryville during the last week.

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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**APRIL 26–30, 1864.—Evacuation of Washington, N. C.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.

No. 2.—Abstract from Record of Events on return of the Sub-district of the Pamlico for April, 1864.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., May* 31, 1864.

GENERAL: My order, No. 5, current series, concerning the outrages committed at Little Washington has been severely commented upon in high places; not by my military superiors, but by Senators of the United States and others. I am so informed, at least. I in-

close the opinion of a board of officers appointed to investigate the matters treated of in that order. It may not have been good policy to issue that order, but there is no injustice in it. My only feeling in the matter is deep regret that there are men in our army who can perpetrate such outrages.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

General L. THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General U. S. Army.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *New Berne, N. C., May* 3, 1864.

While the troops of this command may exult and take just pride in their many victories over the enemy, yet a portion of them have within a few days been guilty of an outrage against humanity, which brings the blush of shame to the cheek of every true man and soldier.

It is well known that during the late evacuation of Washington, N. C., that town was fired, and nearly, if not entirely, consumed, thus wantonly rendering houseless and homeless hundreds of poor women and children, many of them the families of soldiers in our own army, and destroying the last vestige of the once happy homes of those men who have now given up all to serve their country in her hour of peril. And this was done by men in the military service of the United States.

It is also well known that the army vandals did not even respect the charitable institutions, but bursting open the doors of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' lodges, pillaged them both, and hawked about the streets the regalia and jewels. And this, too, by United States troops.

It is well known, too, that both public and private stores were entered and plundered, and that devastation and destruction ruled the hour.

The commanding general had until this time believed it impossible that any troops in his command could have committed so disgraceful an act as this which now blackens the fair fame of the Army of North Carolina. He finds, however, that he was sadly mistaken, and that the ranks are disgraced by men who are not soldiers, but thieves and scoundrels, dead to all sense of honor and humanity, for whom no punishment can be too severe.

The commanding general is well aware what troops were in the town of Washington when the flames first appeared. He knows what troops last left that place; he knows that in the ranks of only two of the regiments in the District of North Carolina the culprits now stand. To save the reputation of the command it is hoped that the guilty parties may be ferreted out by the officers who were in Washington at the time of these occurrences.

This order will be read at the head of every regiment and detachment in this command at dress parade on the day succeeding its receipt, and at the head of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers and the Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers at dress parade every day for ten consecutive days, or until the guilty parties are found.

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *New Berne, N. C., May* 9, 1864.

So much of the last paragraph of General Orders, No. 5, current series, from these headquarters, relative to the destruction and pillage of Washington, N. C., as directs that these orders be "read at the head of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers and Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers at dress parade every day for ten consecutive days," is hereby revoked.

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

CIRCULAR ORDERS.] HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *New Berne, N. C., May* 30, 1864.

I. Before a board of investigation, of which Col. James W. Savage, Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry, is president, convened at New Berne, N. C., by virtue of Special Orders, No. 16, paragraph I, and Special Orders, No. 26, paragraph II, current series, from these headquarters, were summoned various persons, officers, soldiers, and citizens, bearing testimony relative to the facts and circumstances connected with the burning of certain portions of the town of Washington, N. C., and the pillage of that place, alleged to have been committed by certain men in the military and naval service of the United States during the late evacuation, from whose testimony the Board of Investigation deduce the following, viz:

At about 11 p. m. on the 26th of April, 1864, Brigadier-General Harland, in command at Washington, N. C., received orders to evacuate that place, and in pursuance of his instructions the post was finally abandoned about 4 p. m. on the 30th. The intended evacuation seems to have become known, or to have been generally suspected, on Wednesday, the 27th of April. During the afternoon of that day there appears to have been instances of theft, and before morning of Thursday pillaging commenced, at first in the quartermaster's store of the First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers, which during the day became general. Government stores, sutlers' establishments, dwelling-houses, private shops, and stables, suffered alike. Gangs of men patrolled the city, breaking into houses and wantonly destroying such goods as they could not carry away. The occupants and owners were insulted and defied in their feeble endeavors to protect their property. The influence and authority of officers, though sufficient to restrain these excesses when they were personally present, was forgotten or set at naught as soon as they were out of sight, and the sack was checked only by the lack of material to pillage, and ceased only with the final abandonment of the town. It is claimed, and may be true, that some portion of these outrages arose from a general impression that a large amount of stores and property would, upon the abandonment of the place, either be destroyed or left to fall into the hands of the enemy, but this is probably not seriously regarded by any one as a justification, or even palliation, of the utterly lawless and wanton character of the plundering.

The members of the Board, having summoned and examined all those persons within their reach who it was supposed could give any material testimony on the subject, regret that they have been able to identify so few of the individuals concerned in these violations of good order and discipline, but they are of opinion that none of the troops in Washington on the 28th of April last can reasonably claim to escape a share of the shame and odium which the history of those few days has justly caused. These were the Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, detachments of the Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers and the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers, two companies of the Fifth Rhode Island Volunteer Artillery, Ransom's New York battery, two companies of the Twelfth New York Cavalry, and the cavalry company of the First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers. Nor were these alone guilty. Sailors from the gun-boats, hands employed on the transports, negroes, and in some instances citizens, joined in the work of plunder and devastation.

The Board are glad, however, to be able to record their opinion that the officers present in Washington generally, perhaps without exception, not only discountenanced, but used their best endeavors to repress, the disorder and pillage.

At 10 o'clock on the morning of the 30th, and as the last troops were about embarking, a fire broke out in some stables, which had for two days been unoccupied. The conflagration extended to adjacent buildings, and spread so rapidly as to defy all attempts to extinguish it. That this fire was designedly caused admits of little question, but the Board are unable to come to any satisfactory conclusion as to the guilty parties.

Some four hours later Colonel McChesney, at that time in command of the post, sent by one of his officers a verbal order to Commander Renshaw, of the gun-boat Louisiana, then in the stream, in consequence of which that officer sent a boat's crew and set fire to the bridge across the Tar River. This fire also is supposed to have spread through the town. So far as appears in evidence, the fires which caused such serious destruction of property originated at these two points alone. Other fires were kindled, but extinguished in every instance before they had caused any damage.

The commander of the post declares that he had no intention whatever of burning the bridge, but whether his instructions were carelessly given, incorrectly transmitted, or misapprehended, or willfully disregarded by the commander of the Louisiana, the Board do not deem a matter of great importance.

II. The findings of the Board of Investigation in this case are approved, and published for the information of those concerned.

III. The Board of Investigation, of which Col. James W. Savage, Twelfth New York Cavalry, is president, is dissolved.

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 2.

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of the Sub-district of the Pamlico for April,* 1864.

*April* 26.—Instructions received from headquarters District of North Carolina to evacuate Washington, N. C.

*April* 27.—The First Regiment North Carolina (Union) Volunteers (white), with their families and baggage, embarked for New Berne, N. C. A rebel force made their appearance in our front; some skirmishing; loss, 2 of the men of the Seventeenth Massachusetts killed, 1 or 2 wounded; our artillery busy shelling the woods and roads; all contrabands removed to Hill's Point.

*April* 28.—The rebel force disappeared from our front; several deserters report the force to be that of General Hoke, from Plymouth, estimated at from 8,000 to 10,000 men. The Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania and Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteer Infantry embarked at Washington for Fort Monroe. All the cavalry and light artillery, with quartermaster's train, sent overland from Washington to New Berne.

*April* 29.—Rebel cavalry drove in our pickets on the south side of the Pamlico River.

*April* 30.—All the ordnance and ordnance stores, quartermaster's and commissary stores, contrabands and Union people who desired to leave, having been shipped from Washington, N. C., to New Berne, the remainder of the troops embarked for New Berne, leaving the garrison at Hatteras Inlet the only force of United States troops in the Sub-district of the Pamlico. At the time of the evacuation a fire broke out in Washington, which, notwithstanding the exertions of officers and men to extinguish it, destroyed a large portion of the town. Origin of the fire unknown.

**APRIL 27–29, 1864.—Expedition from Williamsburg and skirmish at Twelve-Mile Ordinary, Va.**

*Report of Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk, First New York Mounted Rifles.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MOUNTED RIFLES,
*Near Williamsburg, Va., April* 29, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report, pursuant to orders of the 27th instant, I marched at an early hour. Nothing of importance occurred until we reached the long woods beyond Twelve-Mile Ordinary, where we were fired on by scouts, one of whom (Davis) we captured. The next picket, near Slatersville, we charged to New Kent, capturing 3. The most reliable information I could gain was that there is no force at Tunstall's Station, on the Pamunkey. I could get no information. At Bottom's Bridge are 2,000 infantry and artillery, with Holcombe's battalion of cavalry. Nine field guns are constantly on duty. All the public fords on the river above Ford's Bridge are blockaded and heavily guarded. A large force is stationed at a central point, from which re-enforcements can be thrown to any point above New Bridge in half an hour. Fifteen thousand can be brought to the defense of Bottom's Bridge in that time. Ford's Bridge Ford, three days since, was only defended by a small picket. There is also a picket at Charles City Court-House. The camp of this force performing this duty (supposed to be the Forty-second Battalion) is 6 miles from the court-house, toward Richmond. At the latter place the people are in great excitement. The enemy are strengthening fortifications, and troops are constantly arriving from the direction of Charleston. I believe the Charles City Court-House road is the least defended. There is no force this side of Bottom's Bridge except one troop of the Holcombe Cavalry, at Cedar Hill, 2 miles beyond New Kent Court-House, to picket the roads, but they retreat at the shortest notice. We reached New Kent Court-House at 12.45; rested an hour and a half; returned to Barhamsville, where we halted two hours to feed and supper. Finding the horses very fresh, I decided to return.

In the long woods, 1 mile beyond Twelve-Mile Ordinary, we were attacked at 9 o'clock by an ambuscade (supposed to be the Peninsula Scouts); they had scattered torpedoes or shells, with friction fuses, in the road, six of which exploded in my column, the fire of the fuses making a strong light, of which the enemy took advantage to fire on the men. I wheeled into line, and gave the enemy a volley, which caused them to leave, but they returned again and kept up a continuous fusilade on my entire column as it passed. I did not deem it advisable to follow them into the woods, as I had reason to suppose their infernal machines might do me more injury than the random fire. Although the shells exploded in the midst of the horses and men, strange to say but one man and two horses were slightly wounded with pieces of shell. My men behaved as coolly as on parade, although the uncommon style of warfare was sufficient to destroy the equanimity of the best troops. I should judge the machines to be about 20-pounder shells; they seemed to be charged with canister. Major Hamilton deserves particular notice for his coolness and gallantry through the entire trip. My thanks are due Maj. James N. Wheelan for volunteering to lead a small party around from Barhamsville to cut off the picket at New Kent Court-House,

which only failed on account of the bad road, causing him to be half an hour late. I returned to camp 12.30 this morning.

Casualties: Corporal Feiling, Troop B, wounded in shoulder by shell (slightly).

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. ONDERDONK,
*Colonel, Commanding Mounted Rifles.*

Col. ROBERT M. WEST,
*Commanding Post.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
*April* 29, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I further learn from deserters and prisoners (of which latter 4 were captured and sent down this morning) that there is a regiment of infantry (Fifty-third Virginia) at White House; an accession of cavalry near Charles City Court-House; twenty pieces light artillery, both of brass and iron, at Bottom's Bridge, &c.; also that a wagon-load of torpedoes came down from Richmond four days since, in charge of Hume's Peninsula Scouts, for use on the Peninsula road. They are not self-acting, but are discharged by cords attached, and managed by men concealed in the woods. The commanding general can infer from the above and the inclosed how far the enemy are expecting our advance by the Peninsula.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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**APRIL 28, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Madison Court-House, Va.**

*Report of Col. Thomas C. Devin, Sixth New York Cavalry, commanding brigade.*

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in pursuance of orders from Brigadier-General Torbert, commanding First Cavalry Division, I left camp with my brigade at 5.30 a. m. this day, and marched to James City. At that point I halted and detached one squadron Seventeenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with orders to escort signal officer to the summit of Thoroughfare Mountain. I marched thence to Robertson River, where I found the ford picketed by about 30 rebel cavalry. I ordered the advance of Sixth New York Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Crocker commanding, to charge and carry the ford, which was gallantly done, Lieutenant Cating, of brigade staff, leading the charge and the regiment following. The enemy fired some thirty shots, but fortunately injured no one. The Sixth New York Cavalry was then ordered to drive the rebel pickets through Madison Court-House, and ascertain the presence of any rebel force in that vicinity or at Wolftown. The other two regiments were held in reserve on this side of the river.

It was definitely ascertained that no infantry has been stationed at Wolftown; that William H. F. Lee's old brigade (now under a Colonel Chambliss) of cavalry is encamped near the fork of Robertson and Rapidan Rivers, and is picketing Robertson River, having on the 26th instant relieved Wickham's brigade, which was

ordered to Fredericksburg, and that not over 20 rebel cavalry had lately occupied Madison Court-House. A small force of infantry is said to be between Jack's Shop and Liberty Mills, at which former point an enrolling officer is located.

I ordered the post-office at Madison Court-House to be forced, and the mail seized, but found nothing of importance except some late newspapers. The command remained two hours at Madison Court-House, returning to camp at 5 a. m., after stopping one and one-half hours at James City to feed and cook. Two prisoners of Tenth Virginia Cavalry (Fitzhugh Lee's brigade) were captured, together with their arms, horses, and equipments. Three conscripts, en route to the enrolling officer, were also captured. One citizen, charged with being found doing picket duty, armed, &c., was also brought in.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. C. DEVIN,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

Capt. C. MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**APRIL 28–MAY 1, 1864.—Scout from Vienna toward Upperville, Va.**

*Report of Col. Charles R. Lowell, jr., Second Massachusetts Cavalry, commanding brigade.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
*Washington, D. C., May* 3, 1864.

Col. J. C. KELTON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. of the Army:*

COLONEL: I have the honor herewith to inclose the report of Colonel Lowell, Second Massachusetts Cavalry, commanding cavalry brigade at Vienna, of his recent expedition to the vicinity of Upperville.

This is the third successful operation of Colonel Lowell within the last month, embracing in all a capture of about 50 of Mosby's men, between 30 and 40 horses and equipments, and a good deal of other property. I desire to commend in strong terms the zeal and ability displayed by Colonel Lowell in these various expeditions.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. AUGUR,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Vienna, Va., May* 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report return of the cavalry scout sent out on Thursday after visiting Leesburg, Upperville, Paris, Bloomfield, Union, and Rectortown. No force but Mosby was found there. We searched most of the houses designated by General Augur, and have brought in quite a number of arms and contraband goods; also 21 of Mosby's men and 2 blockade-runners (besides 1 of Mosby's men and 1 blockade-runner turned over by Colonel McMahon), and from 20 to 25 horses. A report in full from the provost-marshal will be forwarded to-morrow. We brought off a portion of the wool indicated in the letter to General Augur, and supplied the command

* Names of prisoners omitted.

pretty well with tobacco. It was impossible to get teams to haul the remainder of the wool. The houses where the bulk of the tobacco must have been stored we did not visit, as the direction of some was given erroneously in the letter, and a good deal of time thus lost. Those below Salem must be left for another visit.

We lost 1 sergeant killed, 1 prisoner, and 2 wounded of Second Massachusetts Cavalry, 2 privates killed and 3 prisoners Sixteenth New York Cavalry; 1 of the killed and all of these prisoners were straggling away from the command improperly. We killed 1 of Mosby's battalion and 1 of Sixth Virginia Cavalry, serving with Mosby; wounded 2, besides 2 wounded brought in.

All has been quiet in this vicinity during the last twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. LOWELL, JR.,
*Col. Second Mass. Cav., Comdg. Cavalry Brigade.*

Capt. W. A. LA MOTTE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Tyler's Division.*

The body mentioned as buried in Upperville was dug up and brought here, and is subject to your orders.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TYLER'S DIVISION,
*Fairfax Court-House, May 2,* 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

I have the honor to commend to the favorable attention of the commanding general the activity and excellent conduct by Colonel Lowell and his command in the late scout. Colonel McMahon, who commanded the infantry, also deserves much credit.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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**APRIL 29–30, 1864.—Expedition from Newport Barracks to Swansborough, N. C.**

*Report of Col. James Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Infantry.*

NEWPORT BARRACKS, *April* 30, 1864.

A small expedition under Captain Kelley, of the Ninth Vermont, left Newport last evening for the purpose of capturing rebel troops at Swansborough and destroying a large quantity of fish ready for shipment to Kinston. Expedition returned to-day with 1 lieutenant, 11 soldiers, and 2 home guards, with their arms, and 2 citizens, prisoners. Captured three or four boats and destroyed about 225 barrels of fish, salted. No loss reported. Will report particulars as soon as possible.

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

General PALMER.

# CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS RELATING TO OPERATIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA, FROM JANUARY 1 TO APRIL 30, 1864.

## UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

PONY MOUNTAIN, *January* 1, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:*

There seems to be less smoke between Raccoon and Morton's Fords. All else about the same. No unusual stir. Heavy smoke back of Raccoon Ford.

HALSTED,
*Signal Officer.*

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CULPEPER, *January* 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

There is as yet no signal station on Cedar Mountain. The detachment of 100 men to guard it have accordingly not been sent. The cavalry pickets are north of Cedar Mountain, and only one-fourth mile in front of the front brigade at Mitchell's Station. I request you to specify when I shall advance the brigade now in rear to Cedar Mountain, because I think such movements should be simultaneous with the new arrangement of the cavalry pickets demanded by such change.

JNO. NEWTON,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 1, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Pleasonton, commanding Cavalry Corps.

The major-general commanding directs that the cavalry pickets be advanced beyond Cedar Mountain and that every precaution be taken to watch the approach to Cedar Mountain from the right and left, and that instructions be given that in the event of any party of the enemy advancing toward it the guard at the signal station of 100 infantry be immediately warned, as well as the commander of the infantry brigade and division at or near Cedar Mountain.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 1, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON:

Instructions have been issued to the commander of the Cavalry Corps to have the cavalry pickets advanced beyond Cedar Mountain, to have every avenue of approach to Cedar Mountain to the right and left carefully watched, and the commander of the guard at the signal station and the commander of the division near Cedar Mountain warned immediately of the approach of any party of the enemy. There should be constant communication with the commander of the division near Cedar Mountain and the commander of the cavalry brigade near Cedar Run, and they should arrange between them every detail necessary to the execution of the duties assigned each.

By order:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, *January* 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

Do you intend all of Robinson's division to occupy Cedar Mountain, or one brigade only?

JNO. NEWTON,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

Major-General NEWTON,
*Commanding First Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to say that whether one or both brigades of Robinson's division are posted near Cedar Mountain is left to you. It was thought to be your proposition to take both brigades there in the personal interview on Wednesday, because the brigade near Cedar Run had a wet camp-ground as well as the brigade near Mitchell's Station. The exact posting of the brigades of the division is left to you, so that they accomplish the objects of the advanced position of the division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*January* 1, 1864.

Col. PAUL FRANK,
*Commanding First Division, Second Corps:*

COLONEL: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to say that he has ordered the supply train of your division, which is now parked near the mill, on the other side of Mountain Run, to be moved to a point designated by Colonel Batchelder, chief quartermaster Second Corps, near the corduroy road leading to Brandy Station.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,
*Major and Aide-de-Camp.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 1, 1864.

Major-General FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that the direction and termination of the left of the picket-line of the Third Corps should be governed by the right of that of the Second Corps. The general position of the picket-line of the Second Corps would be modified by the manner in which the brigade of the Second Corps in front of Stevensburg was posted. A communication upon this subject has just been made to the commander of the Second Corps, who will advance the right of his picket-line so as to throw it in front of the cavalry and infantry brigade and on the road from Stevensburg to Raccoon Ford. The left of the picket-line of the Third Corps should be advanced accordingly and unite with that of the Second Corps at such point near the Raccoon Ford road as may be found most suitable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 1, 1864.

Major-General FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

The major-general commanding considers it to be best that the left of the picket-line of the Third Corps should be thrown forward about half a mile, so as to be outside of the regimental cavalry camps. The pickets of the Second Corps, where they unite with those of the Third, will be thrown forward simultaneously. An understanding should be had between the commanders of the two corps respecting the union of their picket-lines.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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JANUARY 1, 1864—3.30 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

I transmit you three telegrams just received, two being copies of dispatches from Harper's Ferry.* I understand the general commanding's dispatch* to mean that the cavalry division will govern their movements when approaching and while in the valley of the Shenandoah by the information now sent. Please return the telegrams after they are used by you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
*Commanding First Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the pickets be advanced beyond Cedar Mountain, and that every pre-

*Probably Sullivan to Kelley, Sullivan to Halleck, and Meade to Humphreys, Vol. XXIX, Part II, pp. 591, 594.

caution be taken to watch the approach to Cedar Mountain from the right and left, and that instructions be given that in the event of any party of the enemy advancing toward it the guard at the signal station of 100 infantry be immediately warned as well as the commander of the infantry brigade and division at or near Cedar Mountain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *January* 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have to-day assumed command of division.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

---

ALEXANDRIA, *January* 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report my arrival at this point with the leading regiment of my brigade. Four more are following.

F. WHEATON,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARRIOTTSVILLE, *January* 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Captain Simpson directs me to proceed to Harper's Ferry. I left Washington 2 p. m. My rear regiment arrived at the same time. Please telegraph instructions to me at some point on the road. Whom shall I report to at Harper's Ferry? Hurry on my trains with camp and garrison equipage. Quartermaster Murray is in charge of them.

F. WHEATON,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 1, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 11.45 a. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following just received. All the cars I can raise are engaged in moving Averell's troops to Martinsburg. May I again ask that two or three regiments of infantry be sent to Averell from Baltimore?

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

Enemy drove in our pickets to Bunker Hill this morning at 4 o'clock. Firing heard also on Tuscarora road. Cannot re-enforcements be sent here and North Mountain?

W. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 1, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 9.55 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

A telegram just received from General Sullivan reports all quiet below. The scare this morning was caused by a squad of rebel cavalry near Winchester. I am now satisfied there are no rebel troops north of Mount Jackson, except, perhaps, a few scouts. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is thoroughly protected, and perfectly safe for passengers and freight.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, January* 1, 1864.

J. W. GARRETT, Esq.,
*President Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore:*

The reports that the enemy were approaching the railroad in large force with the view of again destroying the bridges, capturing trains, is unfounded. The railroad is well guarded and thoroughly protected, and is perfectly safe for both freight and passengers.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 1, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Our pickets were driven in near Martinsburg this a. m. Give notice to your command to be on the alert, especially the troops below here on the railroad. It is reported to me that Enrights was seen near Moorefield with his company a day or two since.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
*Martinsburg, January* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

I have not much confidence in the pickets of the Twelfth Pennsylvania, who brought in the report that they captured 4 prisoners 4 miles this side of Winchester at 4 o'clock this morning; that the prisoners were subsequently recaptured by 30 rebels, who pursued the scouts of the Twelfth Pennsylvania to Bunker Hill; also that the prisoners had stated that two brigades arrived at Winchester

last night. I have sent out Major Gibson to relieve the pickets of the Twelfth and have requested General Sullivan to direct his cavalry at Charlestown to communicate with mine at Bunker Hill. It seems probable that General Early has been assigned to the command of the Valley Department, with headquarters at Staunton, and it is likely he is determined to establish an outpost at Winchester or to make a raid on this road. I have placed the infantry and battery in position and taken all measures for defense. If the enemy will wait until my brigade is on its feet here he may come. I think it proper, however, to urge that a force of at least 5,000 infantry should be at once established at this point.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 1, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL, *Martinsburg:*

I fully concur with you in regard to the Twelfth Pennsylvania. I am glad you have sent Gibson to the front. General Sullivan says Captain Bailey, of the First New York, reports Rosser's brigade in Winchester last night. If that is all the force there you can whip them with two of your regiments. Keep me fully advised. I have put all the troops along the line of railroad on the alert.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
*Martinsburg, January* 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department of the Cumberland:*

My own scouts have returned from Winchester and report nothing in the place except scouting party of 40 rebels up to dark last night, but that Sixty-second Virginia Infantry, Eighteenth Virginia Cavalry, White's battalion, and one or two companies of Gilmor's battalion were in the vicinity of Winchester. The rebels report my force in the mountains unable to escape; that 1,200 of my command which had been captured passed through Staunton yesterday. I think it is proper that I should assume command of the entire force at this place. I will endeavor to have no more stampedes. Colonel Rodgers' command can, however, make their returns to their proper division commander. If this meets your approbation, please direct it. I still think the permanent infantry force should be increased at this point. As soon as I get my command in order I will clean out Winchester, if the rebels attempt to occupy it.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *January* 1, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK:

GENERAL: Copies of all telegrams relating to movements near Harper's Ferry and Martinsburg have been sent to Major-General Meade. Do you wish any sent to Brigadier-General Lockwood?

Very respectfully, &c.,

THOMAS T. ECKERT,
*Major, &c.*

WASHINGTON, *January* 1, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major ECKERT:

It is not necessary to send telegrams to General Lockwood unless they interest his command.

H. W. HALLECK.

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*January* 1, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Received 11.45 a. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Captain Bailey, of the First New York Cavalry, has returned, reporting a force of cavalry in Winchester, and he supposed a force of infantry near. It was so dark he could obtain no news that would give him an opportunity to judge of their numbers.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*January* 1, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 4.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The scare at Martinsburg was occasioned by a scouting party, who saw but few rebels, yet learned from prisoners that about 1,000 cavalry were approaching. My forces are distributed as follows: Martinsburg, 3,000; Charlestown, 800; cavalry between Charlestown and Bunker Hill, 800; cavalry, with infantry ready to support, from this place, 800. I am not strong enough in infantry here to attempt to get in their rear. Orders have been given to Martinsburg to drive the force below Winchester.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, January* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

A brigade of infantry will immediately leave here for Harper's Ferry.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.
(Received 5.20 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

I can learn nothing that need cause any apprehension. I believe a scare of pickets only has produced this excitement. Trains run regularly, and nothing can be found of any enemy by my forces from Charlestown.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.
(Received 8.25 p. m.)

General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

From information received here I report no enemy certainly this side of Winchester. I occupy all the important points on the roads as far as Bunker Hill with cavalry. A citizen from Berryville reports that the force that was at Strasburg moved up the valley to-day. I am certain that a scare of the pickets was magnified to a great extent, since the heavy firing reported on Tuscarora road turns out to be a salute for the new year.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

---

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My scout, when within 4 miles of Winchester, was attacked at 4 this morning and pursued to Bunker Hill. My troops are under arms and about being formed. Rebels reported as one brigade.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

What men have you? Boyd has gone to Bunker Hill.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Two squadrons of the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with one regiment of cavalry of General Averell's command, all under command of Major Gibson, are at Bunker Hill. All quiet in town.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Send along railroad. Notify all stations. Put Opequon on its guard. Move out a force strong enough to check the enemy. Let me know where they are. Keep town quiet.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Should telegraph wire be cut between us use the signal with Maryland Heights.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Telegram received; all your orders are being executed. All my cavalry have gone to support the squadron at Bunker Hill. General Averell has sent a strong force toward North Mountain.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Your own forces are for the protection of the road. You are the commandant of the post. General Averell's command should cover the town. You keep it quiet. I look to you.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 1, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My cavalry party are still at Bunker Hill. Cavalry have gone to their support. It is believed that two rebel brigades are at Winchester.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CAMDEN STATION, BALTIMORE, MD.,
*January* 1, 1864. (Received 10.50 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Our agent at Martinsburg telegraphs us at 7.50 this morning that General Averell advises us to move all our power and cars to Harper's Ferry, or east of that. The pickets were driven, at 4 o'clock this a. m., from a point 4 miles north of Winchester. One brigade of the enemy reported as moving toward Martinsburg. The general also reports that the Government pickets were driven in at Bunker Hill and firing heard on the Tuscarora road. These advices appear to be ominous of a heavy movement. Will you require additional transportation, and from what point?

J. W. GARRETT,
*President.*

CONFIDENTIAL.] NAVY DEPARTMENT,
*January* 2, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: The admiral in command of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron is confident that he can land a military force on the open beach to the westward of Fort Caswell, whence the reduction of that important work is easily accomplished by the engineers. The result of such operation is to enable the naval vessels to lie inside, as is the case at Charleston, thus closing the port effectually. As this is the only port by which any supplies whatever reach the rebels, and as the armies are mostly going into winter quarters, it seems a fit opportunity to undertake such an operation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 2, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY:

I have the honor to request that I may be informed whether it is expected that Wheaton's brigade, Sixth Corps, recently detached from this army for service in the Shenandoah Valley, will remain absent for some weeks. The brigade numbers about 2,000 men, and its absence will to that extent diminish the number of furloughs that can now be given in this army to soldiers re-enlisting as veteran volunteers. There is a general disposition on the part of those eligible to re-enlist, provided they can at once be granted the furlough of thirty days. The unexpected reduction by 2,000 of the number of furloughs I had calculated upon granting at the present time will, I fear, have an unfavorable effect upon re-enlistments.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *January* 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

The smoke reported this p. m. is still visible, but much reduced. Nothing new over the river. A heavy white smoke at signal station on Clark's Mountain about 3 p. m. has disappeared. It seemed like brush burning.

PAINE.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 2, 1864

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that not less than 100 cavalry be stationed as guards to the signal office on Cedar Mountain in addition to the 100 infantry ordered from the First Corps. They should be concealed as far as practicable from the view of the enemy.

The major-general commanding desires to have the position of the cavalry pickets, vedettes, guards, &c., designated on one of the printed maps, together with the camps of cavalry brigades, regiments, or detachments, and the map or maps forwarded to these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

P. S.—The number of cavalry on picket duty should likewise be noted on the maps, as well as the roads that are patrolled, the distance out which they are patrolled, &c.

A. A. H.

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WARRENTON, *January* 2, 1864.

Captain PARSONS:

I arrived with the brigade at Bealeton at dark yesterday, camped near there, and this morning detached the Third Indiana to camp between Bealeton and Morrisville according to orders. I arrived here at 11 o'clock a. m. and relieved the pickets of the brigade on duty. All quiet on my picket-line at 6 p. m.

WM. GAMBLE,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 2, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Force last night went within 4 miles of Winchester and returned to Bunker Hill. Colonel Boyd returned to Charlestown. The Twelfth Pennsylvania and Gibson's battalion designed going to Winchester this morning.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 2, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Major Bell, Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, returned from near Winchester, reports that enemy, 1,500 strong, composed of White's, Gilmor's, and Imboden's commands, left Winchester via Romney road at 5 p. m. yesterday. Detachment Twenty-second Pennsylvania remained in Winchester during the night.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 2, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Telegraph me exactly Major Bell's language. How close was he to Winchester? Answer immediately.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

MARTINSBURG, *January* 2, 1864.

Captain BOONE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Major Bell reported verbally that he was informed by Colonel Boyd yesterday that he intended to go to Winchester, and that he and Major Gibson, of Averell's command, joined him when he marched, falling into the rear of the column. When about 4 miles from Winchester, Colonel Boyd halted and returned to Bunker Hill at 8 last night, he going on to Charlestown, Bell and Gibson remaining at Bunker Hill. About 12 to-day a detachment of Twenty-second Pennsylvania Cavalry and one section artillery arrived at Bunker Hill, and reported that they had gone to Winchester by the way of Berryville; that the enemy, about 1,500, consisting of White's, Gilmor's, and Imboden's commands, left Winchester in the direction of Romney at 5 yesterday, as they were informed by citizens. The Twenty-second went into Winchester and remained there all night.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 2, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

General Sullivan reports that his scout from Winchester learned that the enemy had moved toward Romney; that is, Imboden's and Gilmor's forces. Order Colonels Campbell and Thoburn to be on the alert.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

From information sent to Colonel Rodgers this morning by General Sullivan I think it important that General Wheaton's force should arrive here to-day, and as a precautionary measure, there should be a pontoon bridge at Falling Waters or Williamsport. General Sullivan states that Imboden and Early are in the vicinity of Winchester with the intention of attacking this place. They will not attempt an attack except with a large force, which could not be very well spared from Lee's army.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
*Martinsburg, January* 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

The following dispatch has just been received from Colonel McCaslin at Sir John's Run:

My scouts just in from the south of this county report having received information from citizens of Winchester that Early and Imboden with 10,000 men were at that place and Rosser with 700 men were at that place, the latter intending to cut the road at Paw Paw or Little Cacapon.

M. McCASLIN,
*Colonel.*

At 8 p. m. I directed a scouting party from the First [West] Virginia Cavalry at North Mountain to go via Mills' Gap to Bloomery at once. My men and horses are not in good condition. The Eighth and First Virginia and Ewing's battery have not arrived.

If you will order General Wheaton's command to this point I shall feel secure and will soon be able to assume the offensive.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

General Wheaton with five regiments was ordered from Washington to Harper's Ferry. A portion, I learn, have already arrived. I will go to Martinsburg and the Ferry as soon as I can safely leave here. If Imboden and Gilmor are coming up this way I do not wish to be far away.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

Send a scout to-morrow morning via Mills' Gap, Shanghai, and Unger's Store to Bloomery, and ascertain if there is any truth in the report of Imboden coming up this way.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
*Martinsburg, January* 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

I have but very few horses able to go to Winchester. Infantry can move faster than cavalry, and farther during this weather, and I should prefer to send my men on foot, those who have shoes and are able to walk. Fitz. Lee's horses must be in miserable condition, as it has taken since Wednesday last to reach Petersburg from Mount Jackson. Cannot the Tenth [West] Virginia, by a forced march over the Seneca route via Franklin, reach the South Fork before Lee's return? They should send scouts ahead to ascertain what his route may be. I do not believe that the enemy can move Thoburn if he has enough ammunition. It is impossible, I believe, to cut Lee off from this point with my command in its present condition. A movement of infantry to Mount Jackson beyond would stand some chance of harassing him. I will send forward my available cavalry force in the morning, but it will necessarily be very small.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Colonel MCCASLIN,
*Sir John's Run:*

I have ordered General Averell to send a cavalry scout to-morrow across by Shanghai and Unger's Store to Bloomery. Keep your scouts on the alert. Don't suffer your command to be surprised. No rebel force in Winchester.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

PONY MOUNTAIN, *January* 3, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain NORTON,
*Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

I have carefully reconnoitered along the enemy's position, and can discover no alteration.

PAINE.

---

WATERY MOUNTAIN, *January* 3, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

The cavalry have not yet returned. I think it was their smoke seen this p. m.

WILSON,
*Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
*January* 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

SIR: I inclose herewith sketch* showing position of the Second Division, together with a note* from General Robinson. I received one last night complaining about the non-establishment of the picket-line, as directed by you, and immediately wrote to General Merritt on the subject. Unless the cavalry can be so posted as to give General Robinson adequate notice of a hostile approach, I should respectfully recommend the withdrawal of the infantry division from Cedar Mountain, as the risk would then counterbalance any advantage to be gained by occupying such position. The cavalry pickets have not advanced beyond Cedar Mountain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. NEWTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that instructions were yesterday given General Merritt in regard to posting his pickets, as directed. He is ordered to report as soon as the line is established.

* Not found.

The printed maps have been furnished both General Kilpatrick and General Merritt, with instructions to have the position of pickets, vedettes, camps of brigades, regiments, &c., noted on the map. The maps will be forwarded to you with the least possible delay.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

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WARRENTON, *January* 3, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 8.20 p. m.)

Major-General PLEASONTON:

I have the honor to report that I left Front Royal at 10.30 a. m. this morning; arrived here at 7.30 p. m. this evening. From information received at Front Royal, General Early, with 10,000 mounted men and eight pieces of artillery, is between Woodstock and Strasburg, about starting on a raid for the purpose of striking the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, by way of Winchester and Martinsburg. Colonel Taylor was not able to ford the river at Front Royal, the river being too deep. Would leave his camp, Front Royal, about 12 o'clock this morning, expecting to arrive here by noon to-morrow. No report of any body of the enemy being on this side of the river.

By command of Col. J. P. Taylor, commanding:

T. J. GREGG,
*Aide-de-Camp.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 3, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded.

This report evidently exaggerates the number of mounted men at Strasburg. The whole rebel cavalry does not come up to that force at this time.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 3, 1864—11 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

Your communication of 10.30 p. m. is received.

The major-general commanding directs me to say that the return of Colonel Taylor, under the circumstances reported, evinces an entire misconstruction of the object of the expedition. He directs that a messenger be dispatched to meet Colonel Taylor and prevent his return to Warrenton, and that that officer be directed to return to the Shenandoah and move up that river until he finds a place where he can cross it, and obtain positive information as to the position and movements of the enemy, actual or intended. Colonel Taylor's further operations, after he has obtained this information, must depend upon the circumstances in which he finds himself placed. If the opportunity offers of harassing or striking the enemy successfully he will take advantage of it.

Very respectfully,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

BEALETON, *January* 3, 1864.

Captain PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

What duty is the Third Indiana Cavalry, First Division, to perform? The regiment is simply encamped, not picketing. The pickets of the Second Pennsylvania, near Morrisville, should be relieved. Signal officer at Watery Mountain reports having heard guns towards Manassas Gap this p. m.; only two guns.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

WATERY MOUNTAIN, *January* 3, 1864—2 p. m

Captain WEIR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Have heard two guns this p. m. Sound appeared to come from direction and beyond Chester Gap. Could see no smoke from the guns. Some camp smokes have sprung up in the direction of Manassas Gap, and just beyond the Big Cobbler Mountain. A black smoke, as if from a burning house, seen near Thoroughfare Gap.

F. WILSON,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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WATERY MOUNTAIN, *January* 3, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Captain WEIR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I think the smokes reported are near Markham Station. The guns heard are beyond or in Manassas Gap. Can see no troops and everything is quiet now.

WILSON,
*Captain, Signal Officer.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 3, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 12.10 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

I send you, for the information of the General-in-Chief, copy of General Sullivan's dispatch. If the enemy comes toward Romney or Moorefield I will be ready for him, and will certainly prevent his safe return.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*January* 3, 1864.

The following just received:

CHARLESTOWN, W. VA., *January* 2, 1864.

I have the honor to report the return of Captain Stearns. He went by way of Bunker Hill. There he met Major Gibson, of General Averell's command. They had not sent any party toward Winchester. To-day Captain Stearns went within 3 miles of Winchester, met 3 deserters, and returned. He conversed with some citizens, who said Fitz. Lee and Rosser had gone toward Moorefield yesterday; that

Imboden and White were on the Cedar Creek; were about 2 miles from Winchester. These deserters confirm this, and say Early is in command of the whole. Walker's brigade of infantry went with Lee. Winchester certainly is not occupied by any troops, but stragglers are in and out. Imboden has two pieces of artillery (iron). Have some wagons, and forage as they go along. Early has a large wagon train; Imboden but a few. It is Colonel Imboden, not general. The general is in Richmond. The deserters say a small force lies between Front Royal and Berryville, and that they heard officers say the design was to attack Martinsburg, and all meet about here. I give the above for what it is worth. The command originally started with six days' rations. Rosser's brigade crossed the river in a scow at New Market, a few at a time. To find it out our infantry can come up here and occupy this place, which will enable us to take all available cavalry. I send deserters to you.

W. H. BOYD,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

It is certainly strange that I can get no force to enter Winchester. I sent Colonel Boyd peremptory orders to go to Winchester and find out. The weather is intensely cold, and no signs of moderation.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

I presume Averell's breach of gentlemanly and officer-[like] bearing was caused probably by an order I gave him last night. He has been importuning me to send him Wheaton's troops to enable him to hold the place. I ordered him in case he was assailed in large force to fall back to Harper's Ferry with all the force at Martinsburg. This, I presume, has displeased him. Send your telegrams to him, keeping copies of all. Have you any news to-night?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Imboden and McNeill attacked and captured a wagon train to-day near Williamsport, in Hardy County. I presume the movement down the valley was to cover this operation and to secure their safe return.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 3, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

There is but little doubt that Early's division is this side Strasburg. Be on the alert. Notify General Averell. Deserters say part have gone up Romney road.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 3, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Major Bell's report proves to be untrue. Early and Imboden are yet near Winchester. My troops have not occupied the town or been in it. At 10 a. m. to-morrow start a cavalry force of 100 men to co-operate with a force sent from Charlestown, and give them written orders to proceed to Winchester and see the force of the enemy stationed there. The prisoners brought in say that Early's intention was to attack Martinsburg. I advise you to be on the alert. Show this to General Averell.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 3, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I had anticipated yours, and sent 50 cavalry to Bunker Hill at 2 a. m. At 10 a. m. I sent 50 more to join them. They will proceed to Winchester as ordered. General Averell learned at 1 a. m. from commanding officer at Sir John's Run of Early, Imboden, and Rosser being in Winchester last night. This force reported at 10,700.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 3, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My scouts sent out this [day] at 1 approached within a mile of Winchester, driving rebel pickets before them. Learned from citizens at that point that Gilmor's battalion was guarding town, and Imboden's command was encamped at Union Mills, 1½ miles above town. Scouts returned 9 miles until met by the party sent from here at 10 a. m., when both started for Winchester at 2 this p. m.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, *January* 3, 1864.
(Received 11.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

My cavalry from the Ferry, under Colonel Boyd, entered Winchester at 3 p. m., capturing a few prisoners. Lee's, Rosser's, and Walker's brigades of infantry have gone westward. Early has about 5,000 infantry near Middletown, expecting Meade to cross at Front Royal or higher up. One of Imboden's aides read a dispatch to that effect this morning and was overheard. About 800 cavalry are between Winchester and Middletown. My cavalry will attack them. I have a deserter from General Lee who reports the following, which, by permission of General Kelley, I send direct to you: Mosby is in Loudoun. He has, besides his own men, two companies—the

Black Horse and Little Fork Rangers. Some of Mosby's men told him that about 5,000 men were coming down the valley. General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia numbers about 45,000 men, including force now in valley. The army is now better clothed than ever before. Large quantities of clothing and boots have been received from England. I know that Mosby is in Loudoun with Hampton's Legion. The man is intelligent. Shall I send him to you?

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

I cannot believe it is the intention of Early to attack you in force. If, however, I should be mistaken, and he approach you in large force, you will retire with all the force at Martinsburg to Harper's Ferry, under the protection of our batteries on Maryland Heights, and where we can unite all of our forces and take the offensive. As for Imboden, Gilmor, Rosser, or Fitzhugh Lee, or even all combined, I have no fear but what you can with your command take care of yourself and them too.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

Imboden and McNeill attacked and captured a wagon train to-day near Williamsport. I presume the movement of troops down the valley was to cover this operation and to secure their safe return. I unfortunately have not cavalry sufficient to follow them, and I presume it will be impossible for you to cut them off.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—11 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

Colonel Boyd reports from Winchester at 4 p. m. to-day that Lee's and Rosser's cavalry had gone to Paw Paw, and would probably come to Cumberland; that Early was at Middletown, and was expecting a force from Meade to cross at Front Royal. The Eighteenth Cavalry and White's battalion were left to watch our movements, and were at or near Kernstown. Boyd was going out to meet him. Just received a dispatch from Colonel Mulligan, advising me that Lee and Rosser were besieging Thoburn at Petersburg. Move forward to-morrow morning all of your available cavalry force to Winchester, and assist Boyd. I fear Thoburn is in a tight place.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

I think it will not be advisable to uncover New Creek. I fear that is the point the enemy is after, or this. Wait until we hear something further. Hold the First Virginia Cavalry in readiness.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864.

Colonel CAMPBELL,
*Springfield:*

It is rumored that Fitz. Lee and Imboden are moving toward Romney. Keep your scouts well out; also direct them to do the same along the railroad below. How is the South Branch? Is it fordable?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel CAMPBELL,
*Springfield:*

McNeill has again captured wagon train to-day near Williamsport, and carried off all the horses.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 3, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel CAMPBELL,
*Springfield:*

A dispatch from General Sullivan just received. Reports that Lee's and Rosser's cavalry left Winchester for Paw Paw, and intended to come to this place. Strengthen your pickets at the bridge and ford. Be on the alert. I depend on you to keep the enemy from here.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., January* 4, 1864—3 p. m.

General MEADE:

If the present fall of snow should continue it will stop for a time all military movements. General Sullivan has just reported that Early has fallen back to Strasburg.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 4, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

An officer from Colonel Smith [Taylor], commanding cavalry division sent into the Shenandoah Valley, arrived at Warrenton last night from Front Royal, reporting the Shenandoah River not fordable, and that Colonel Smith [Taylor] was returning, his command broken down from the severity of the weather and the bad condition of the roads and want of supplies. It was reported at Front Royal that Early was at Strasburg with infantry and cavalry, about to make a raid on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. I fear it is too late, even if practicable, to intercept this operation from any movement from this army. The Shenandoah cannot be crossed without a bridge, and it is doubtful whether a bridge train can be transported at the present season and weather. Any force to be of use should be so strong as to overcome the enemy concentrated on his return. With my army weakened by the detachments already made, and the large number of furloughs granted, I feel reluctant to send a large force away, particularly as I doubt the practicability of moving it over the roads we are compelled to use at this season. I would rather suggest sending troops by railroad if they are required for defensive purposes. Please give me your views whether I shall send back the cavalry or a strong force of all arms.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, January* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

SIR: In reply to your communication of the 2d instant, I am instructed by the General-in-Chief to inform you that the detachment of Wheaton's brigade is only temporary, and that it will return the moment Early's raid is checked or driven back.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MITCHELL'S STATION, *January* 4, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON, *Commanding First Army Corps:*

Lieutenant-Colonel Allen has just returned from re-establishing the picket-line. My pickets cover the whole front for a distance of 4½ or 5 miles, and are 1 mile from camp. The cavalry connect on the left, but no cavalry pickets can be found on the right.

J. C. ROBINSON,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 4, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General SYKES, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the protection of the railroad at Rappahannock Station will probably

be left to two divisions of the Fifth Corps, and that you make every preparation to concentrate the First Division quickly, and move it forward to take the place of the Sixth Corps. In the event of the division moving, a small force will be left to guard the bridges at Rappahannock Station, until part of one of the other divisions comes up.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 4, 1864—11.45 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that you hold two divisions ready to move at a moment's notice, with supply train and two batteries (eight pieces) of artillery. Please report the strength of the two divisions, the number of days' rations on hand, and number of days' forage on hand. Arrangements had better be made to put the five days' rations in the knapsack, and for driving beef on the hoof.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 4, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to say that the whole of the Sixth Corps should be held ready to move, with full supply of rations and forage. A division of the Fifth Corps will be sent to take the place of the Sixth Corps in the event of its moving. Sixty rounds of ammunition, including the 40 rounds in the cartridge-boxes, should be taken. Such part of the ambulance trains as you deem proper should be held ready to move with the troops. Eight pieces of artillery are considered sufficient. All the forage that it is practicable to carry should be taken with the corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS, *January* 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: In compliance with orders received to-day, I respectfully submit the following field report of this command present for duty, officers and men:

| Command. | Officers. | Men. |
|---|---|---|
| First Division | 250 | 4,696 |
| Second Division | 162 | 3,008 |
| Third Division | 160 | 3,211 |
| Artillery Brigade | 24 | 797 |

The Artillery Brigade has 735 serviceable horses and 46 field pieces.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Culpeper, Va., January* 4, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

All quiet on the lines. Four deserters from the Fourth Alabama Infantry came in to-day. Their accounts are rather mixed. They say Heth's and Johnson's divisions have gone to Gordonsville and Staunton.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Bealeton, January* 4, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Several of the regiments of the Second Brigade have made winter quarters at Bealeton. One regiment of this brigade is camped on the railroad between Warrenton and Warrenton Junction. Good camps at that point for a brigade.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG:

Your division remains at Warrenton until further orders. The orders sent you last night are countermanded. You will please direct Colonel Taylor to send a report by telegraph of the state of the roads and whether it is practicable to send a pontoon train to the Shenandoah River, and also the condition of his command, whether able to return to the Shenandoah or not.

By order:

E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Bealeton, January* 4, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PARSONS,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cavalry Corps:*

Colonel Taylor has returned to Warrenton. A staff officer just arrived reports for Colonel Taylor that it is utterly impracticable to take pontoons to the Shenandoah. The roads are almost impassable for horsemen. The command is much broken down, and could not move again for a week. The Second Brigade, having left their property at Bealeton, is much exposed in this storm.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Bealeton, January* 4, 1864.

Captain PARSONS:

The following dispatch just received from Colonel Taylor:

Arrived at Warrenton 2 p. m. Command worn out. The roads impassable for trains of any kind. Pontoons to reach the Shenandoah could only go from Culpeper to Chester Gap by way of Sperryville.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Warrenton, January* 4, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. R. SMITH:

I arrived here with my command at 3 p. m. to-day, and reported at once to General Gregg.

J. P. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

WARRENTON, *January* 4, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General GREGG:

The only possible way for pontoons to reach the Shenandoah would be from Culpeper to Chester Gap, by way of Sperryville and Gaines' Cross-Roads.

By order of Col. J. P. Taylor, commanding Second Cavalry Division:

T. J. GREGG,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

---

WARRENTON, *January* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG:

In compliance with orders, report as follows: First Brigade, 67 officers and 1,522 enlisted men; Second Brigade, 54 officers and 943 enlisted men.

H. C. WEIR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WARRENTON, *January* 4, 1864—4.35 p. m.

General GREGG:

Colonel Taylor arrived here with his command at 2.30 p. m. Reports the command worn out and the roads over which he has passed impassable for trains of any kind; has just sent a report by Lieutenant Collins.

By command of Col. J. P. Taylor, commanding forces:

T. J. GREGG,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 4, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Colonel TAYLOR,
*Warrenton:*

The major-general commanding desires to know by what route your command marched from Warrenton to Front Royal, and by what route it returned. Reply desired as soon as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 4, 1864.
(Received 5.55 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

I send for the information of the General-in-Chief a copy of telegram just received from General Averell:

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY:

Two deserters and 2 prisoners report that General Early arrived at Mount Jackson on Wednesday morning with the commands of Generals Fitz. Lee, Rosser, Archer, Thomas, Jones, and Imboden. It was thought Lee was going to Paw Paw Tunnel; that Walker, with three brigades, was going to Page Valley, and that an attack was intended on Martinsburg. It was said that Ewell was on his way to the valley with 20,000 men. They all tell the same story. Captain Johnson, Twelfth Pennsylvania, came in at midnight, and reports that he went with Colonel Boyd 7 miles beyond Winchester yesterday evening to Newtown, where they encountered the pickets of the enemy. White's battalion, Eighteenth and Sixty-second, were encamped in that vicinity. The report was circulated that Ewell had arrived at Mount Jackson with 20,000 men. Colonel Boyd said he would return to the Opequon last night, and to Charlestown this morning. I have sent a regiment to Winchester to picket in that direction. It seems to be an imperative necessity that there should be a bridge across the Potomac at Falling Waters or Williamsport as a precautionary measure, as it might be impracticable for me to retire to Harper's Ferry if attacked by a superior force.

W. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—1 p. m.

WILLIAM P. SMITH,
*Camden Station, Baltimore:*

Please have troop trains pushed through to this place as rapidly as possible. Make all else give way. The safety of the road and property demands it. Answer.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—7 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Your telegram received. Send me the Twelfth Virginia if you can get cars. Get them off as soon as possible. I have only one

company here. Nothing further from Thoburn. I have confidence he will whip them off. I ordered Averell to send all of his available cavalry force to Winchester this a. m. if the infantry force of Early has retreated up the valley. Send Colonel Boyd with all of your available cavalry to Moorefield by the way of Wardensville for the purpose of cutting off the enemy and relieving Thoburn.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Push the Twelfth [West Virginia] off as soon as possible. It is important they reach here to-night. Nothing from Thoburn this a. m. I trust he will be all right.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Hold Colonel Boyd in readiness, but let him rest his men and horses and await further orders. Averell sent a regiment to Winchester to-day. Nothing further from Thoburn. If they take him, before they do it somebody will get hurt.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Lee and Rosser are reported besieging Colonel Thoburn at Petersburg. I have no force to send to his relief without exposing all of my supplies to be captured at New Creek. I have ordered Averell to move all of his available cavalry to-morrow morning to Winchester to support Boyd. Hold your command in readiness to move or fight at a moment's notice.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Colonel CAMPBELL,
*Springfield:*

Colonel Thoburn is besieged by the rebels in large force. I telegraphed you last night, but have received no answer yet. Be on the alert. Do not suffer yourself to be surprised, and be ready to move at any moment if necessary.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Colonel CAMPBELL,
*Springfield:*

Please send a picket to Frankfort, so as to keep yourself and me advised if the enemy make a movement on this place down Patterson's Creek.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—4 p. m.

Colonel CAMPBELL,
*Springfield:*

Rosser's brigade of cavalry is at Burlington, no doubt on its way here. You will immediately move to the mouth of Patterson's Creek and thence up to the railroad bridge at North Branch, and I will either have it planked over or send cars to bring you over. You must move at once. I cannot learn the strength of Rosser's command.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Colonel CAMPBELL,
*Springfield:*

You must move at once as ordered, so as to be here by daylight to-morrow morning. We will be attacked here to-morrow unless we are prepared. Don't wait a moment after you receive this.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—6 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Have you any news during the night? The force assailing Thoburn cannot exceed 2,000 men, with very little artillery, if any. Can't he hold out? How much ammunition has he got? What do you think of the proposition of taking the First Virginia Cavalry and a section of Carlin's battery, and by a rapid movement go to the assistance of Thoburn?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—11 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

I only made the suggestion for your consideration. I am still of the opinion it is their intention to come here or go to New Creek. Please send a small cavalry scout via Knobly to the Patterson's Creek road, so we may be advised of any movement on this place.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Please answer my telegram of this morning. Have ordered the Fourth Virginia Cavalry and all the other force Wilkinson can spare to New Creek; also ordered the Eighth Virginia Cavalry to stop there, now on the way from Webster to Martinsburg.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

I have ordered Campbell to move to Green Spring to-night. I will send cars for him at 11 p. m.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—10 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

As the enemy have not attacked Thoburn I am satisfied that they are not prepared to attack any fortifications, and will not attack you. You will therefore push the Eighth [West Virginia] Regiment right on to me here on its arrival.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

I advised Campbell to be on the alert. Telegraph him in the morning.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain FARRIS,
*Oakland:*

Keep your men about your block-house and ready for any emergency. You must protect that bridge at all hazards.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—10 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER AT BEVERLY:

The enemy are moving on us all along my lines. Petersburg is now besieged by a large force. Be on the alert. If Keeper's battery has not left Beverly, hold it there. Answer.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel OLEY, *Piedmont:*

Your telegram just received, and makes me feel good. Push on your trains as soon as they arrive to this point. Get here before morning if possible.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

I have just received a telegram from Colonel Oley, dated at Piedmont. His regiment will be here before morning. If Rosser does not reach here before noon to-morrow I will be all right for him. Fitz. Lee had not attacked Thoburn up to 5 a. m. I think this looks like they did not want to fight, but to rob and steal. I am expecting a regiment from Harper's Ferry to-night. Snowing here all day.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General DUFFIÉ,
*Commanding, Charleston:*

The enemy are moving on us all along my lines. Be on the alert and ready for him. Answer.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *January* 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Colonel WILKINSON,
*Clarksburg:*

Send the Fourth Virginia Cavalry and all other forces you can spare to New Creek. Cars will go to Clarksburg this a. m. for you. The enemy are threatening Petersburg in strong force. Let the colonel leave a small camp guard.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CAMDEN STATION, BALTIMORE,
*January* 4, 1864—6.40 p. m. (Received 7.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War*, and
Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

I fear the information of Saturday was entirely erroneous. We are advised that the enemy in large force are threatening our road as far west as Cumberland and Piedmont, and that a battle is now progressing near New Creek. It is stated that General Ewell is in the valley with 20,000 men. General Kelley advises that we instruct

no trains to go west of Harper's Ferry this p. m. We send one regiment from Baltimore at 9 o'clock. Your better information will doubtless enable you to judge whether considerable re-enforcements are not required to prevent disasters.

J. W. GARRETT,
*President.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., January* 4, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General LOCKWOOD,
*Baltimore:*

Please send any forces you can spare to General Sullivan at Harper's Ferry. What can you send? Answer.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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BALTIMORE, MD., *January* 4, 1864—5.30 p. m.
(Received 5.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

Telegram received. There are no forces here that would be of any service to General Sullivan, except the Tenth Maryland, a most excellent regiment of 700 men, which will be ordered on forthwith.

H. H. LOCKWOOD,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C.,
*January* 5, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Army of the Potomac:*

It is now reported that Ewell's corps is in the Shenandoah Valley. Have you any information to that effect? I think another brigade should be sent here, to report to General Augur for transportation to Harper's Ferry.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Near Brandy Station, Va., January* 5, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 2 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

Our scouts have returned from the valley, and report that Early's command, consisting of five brigades of infantry, estimated at 7,000, together with Lee's, Rosser's, Imboden's, and Jenkins' cavalry, and some artillery, passed down the valley about Friday last with the intention of making a raid on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, but the main body moved from Woodstock over to Moorefield, intending to attack and cut the railroad at New Creek; that a detachment of infantry—Thomas' (Georgia) brigade—and some cavalry were sent through Strasburg to threaten Martinsburg, as a diversion. This intelligence is deemed reliable, and seems to be confirmed by the movements reported by General Kelley.

The cavalry sent to Front Royal returned yesterday evening completely exhausted, and reported the roads passed over impassable for any trains. At present, with snow on the ground, the only passable road open to a detachment from this army, viz, the Culpeper and Sperryville pike, is not practicable, from the balling of the snow in the animals' hoofs. I hold the balance of the Sixth Corps, about 10,000 men, a division of cavalry, about 4,000, and some artillery, with a bridge train, in readiness for any movement you may order; but I am still of the opinion that the operations against Early, to be effective, should be from the railroad and defensive, and the character of the season and roads, together with the difficulty of procuring supplies, after exhausting those carried with them, will render nugatory any effort made from this army to cut off Early's retreat, as he has a road via Franklin to withdraw to Staunton, in addition to the one through Woodstock. Again, to re-enforce Kelley, if necessary, from this army would require a smaller detachment than an independent movement into the valley, thus weakening me proportionately less. Defensive movements also would have roads, and the troops be more readily supplied. Under existing circumstances, I shall await your orders before making any movement.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 5, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 3 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Telegram of 12.30 p. m. received. Mine of 1 p. m. is an answer. Ewell's corps is not in the valley, but Early's command as reported. I have made all the arrangements for a brigade to be sent. Shall I send it at once?

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 5, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 6 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Up to January 2 the re-enlistments of veteran volunteers amount to 16,189. Of this number there have been sent to their respective States for furloughs and re-organization thirteen regiments, two battalions, and forty-five companies of infantry, two regiments and fifteen companies of cavalry, the whole amounting to 5,000 men. In addition, about 7,000 additional furloughs have been granted, making in all about 12,000 furloughs, and leaving 4,000 to be granted on the return of those now absent. The average furlough is thirty-five days. Should Congress re-allow the bounties to veteran volunteers, and the exigencies of the service permit of furloughs being given, I am of the opinion many more enlistments will be made.

Please communicate the above to the President and Secretary of War.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January 5*, 1864—7 p. m. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Shaler's brigade of the Sixth Corps, 1,375 enlisted men, will leave this point at 4 a. m. to-morrow.

Further examination of scouts subsequent to my telegram of 1 p. m. would lead to the conclusion that the infantry of Early's command in the lower valley was only two brigades and some detached regiments.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., January 5*, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Army of the Potomac:*

The brigade ordered up will probably be sufficient to supply General Kelley's wants. It will be held here ready for his orders. Last reports from Baltimore and Ohio Railroad indicate no immediate danger.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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JANUARY 5, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

I am instructed by the commanding general to say that at the present moment the furloughs granted to veteran volunteers re-enlisted in your corps must be limited to 1,200,* which will be held to include the men individually furloughed by you as well as those ordered home in a body from these headquarters. This restriction is rendered absolutely necessary by the existing condition of affairs, and the men who re-enlist and are not now furloughed will be granted their furloughs when those now absent return, or earlier if the demands of the service will permit.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
*January 5*, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a telegram yesterday directing me to hold the First Division of this corps in readiness to occupy the camp of General Sedgwick's troops.

The duty required of my command is now of such a nature as gives the men one night in bed out of three in some of the divisions (I have not heard from all), and in consequence sickness is greatly on the

* Similar letters to commanding officer of Third Corps, allowing 1,700; Fifth Corps, 1,700, and Sixth Corps, 3,700.

increase. I have two regiments engaged upon the trains, guards for depot here and there, 25 miles of railroad to watch, besides protecting the approaches from north and south of the railroad; Beverly Ford and a picket-line extending up to Freeman's Ford to occupy, besides large details that have been exacted to build corduroy roads, &c. I respectfully submit that my troops cannot accomplish all this duty with three depleted divisions. I had determined to call the attention of the commanding general to the case. With two the duty cannot be done properly. If practicable, I respectfully ask that my First Division be relieved from the possibility of moving to the south bank of the Rappahannock.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
*Near Brandy Station, January 5*, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: I desire to report to the general commanding that I can take but five days' forage with my transportation. The chief of artillery reports that he cannot take any on his caissons, but will have to lighten them of some ammunition to get along. The roads are not only impracticable, but impassable. My transportation for the last twenty-four hours has not succeeded in bringing up the five days' supplies, and this with the loss of several animals.

I am, very respectfully,

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January 5*, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Commanding Sixth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that the brigade held in readiness to move to Washington by railroad be at Brandy Station in time to embark in the cars which leave at 4 a. m. to-morrow. This arrangement it is expected will give the men some sleep before moving to the depot. Upon reaching Alexandria, General Shaler will report by telegraph to Major-General Augur, commanding Department of Washington.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January 5*, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

General Merritt reported yesterday that four deserters from Fourth Alabama had come in, stating that Heth's and Johnson's divisions

had gone to Gordonsville and Staunton. It was and is important that these deserters should be here as soon as practicable, yet they have not yet reached here. I have telegraphed General Merritt direct to learn if the deserters are certain they belong to the Fourth, or if it is the Fourteenth Alabama, and to what brigade and division they belong.

The major-general commanding directs that General Merritt's attention be called to the orders requiring the forwarding of deserters with all possible dispatch to headquarters, and to report the cause of delay in this instance.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. FIRST CAV. DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 5, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps Headquarters:*

Herewith I send you a map, marked as directed, with positions of camps of brigades, regiments, batteries, and also of vedettes and reserves.

The First Brigade, now absent, had established its camp on the Stevensburg and James City road, about 1½ miles to the front of Ward's house. It will resume that position when it returns, if not otherwise ordered. The force on duty as picket is from 500 to 600.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *January* 5, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

All quiet along my picket-line. Where is Starke's Ford; on what stream or river? Please answer.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST CAV. DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 5, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps Headquarters:*

COLONEL: In answer to the inquiry of the major-general commanding as to why I "suspended the execution of a positive order" sent me on the 2d instant in reference to posting 100 men as guard to a signal station on Cedar Mountain, I have the honor to reply:

The order was given and carried out (as far as possible) on the 2d and also on the 3d instant, details of the force required being sent both days. On the third day it was reported to me that there was no signal station on the mountain, when I authorized the commanding officer of the Reserve Brigade, who furnished the detail, not to send any more parties to the mountain until the signal party ar-

rived, of which he was to keep himself well informed, when the detail would be resumed. This, I took it, would be carrying out the spirit of the order, and saving men and horses for other duty.

I notified headquarters of the corps of the change in time, if it was ill-advised, that it might be rectified before any change was made, which it was.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 5, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, with report as required.

As soon as it was known at these headquarters that General Merritt had suspended the order he was directed to execute it at once.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WARRENTON, *January* 5, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Received dispatch to rejoin my division without delay at 12 o'clock m. to-day. I have given notice to the officer here in command of the cavalry of the Second Division to relieve my command now out on picket as soon as possible. It will probably be late this p. m. before all my command will be relieved and ready to march, and with the general's permission would like to start from here at daylight to-morrow morning.

WM. GAMBLE,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG:

Colonel Gamble with his brigade has been directed to rejoin his division.

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 5, 1864.

Col. P. HUEY,
*Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division:*

COLONEL: Upon the receipt of this you will encamp your brigade on the railroad from Warrenton Junction to Warrenton. The camps of the regiments will be placed as follows: Two regiments at the tank, two regiments at the bridge below (toward the junction), one regiment near Payne's Mill, and one regiment near Three-Mile Sta-

tion. Select the best possible camps, with abundance of wood and water, and as near the railroad as practicable. Let the regiments at once go to work to make shelters for themselves and horses. Send details from each regiment to get the property left in the camps at Bealeton. Do not allow any straggling through the country. The detachment of the First Maine will escort your battery and wagon train.

Very respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE MIL. DIR. AND SUPT. RAILROADS, U. S.,
*Washington, January 5*, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM, *Washington:*

GENERAL: Transportation from here to the front was called for to-day by your brigade quartermaster for six pontoons, twenty-six pontoon wagons and eight army wagons, and about one car-load of other freight, and I gave instructions to have cars placed on Maryland avenue to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock to take them. Since then I learn that the army is sadly in want of forage, and every car we have must be used in sending forward a supply. Please consider the arrangement made to supply you with cars as suspended until this supply and forage pressure is over.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. C. McCALLUM,
*Colonel, Mil. Director and Supt. of Railroads, United States.*
Per W. H. WHITON.

[Indorsement.]

Lieutenant Livingston will direct that the articles called for from the front will not be sent from our depot until further orders from me.

H. W. BENHAM,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., January 5*, 1864—12 p. m.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

An infantry regiment left Baltimore for Harper's Ferry last night. Two more will leave here to-day. Do you want any more artillery? Cannot some of General Scammon's forces be brought up to your line?

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January 5*, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 10.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

I have ordered General Sullivan to send the two regiments of infantry, now on the way from Washington, to Martinsburg. I do not need any more artillery at present. Cannot withdraw any

force from General Scammon's division with safety. Scouts report Lee's and Rosser's forces at Romney to-night, on their way toward Winchester. Have ordered Sullivan and Averell to cut them off.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January 5,* 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

My scouts report that there has not been over 6,000 of the enemy in the valley, and that Early went westward with Lee.

The main object of the rebels was to gather supplies and stores for the winter, and if good opportunity offered to break the railroad, but they did not care to fight much. They sent back two wagon loads of leather from Winchester.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January 5,* 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

From the examination of several deserters and prisoners to-day, I am confident that Early was at Middletown yesterday with about 4,500 men and three batteries; my impression is that he will advance this way to-morrow to protect the return of Lee and Rosser. If General Sullivan could advance and attack the force of Early, and either beat it or hold it, and I had an adequate force here, I could move to a point 11 miles west of Winchester and endeavor to intercept Lee if he should come that road; but that would require also a sufficient force to be left here in order to check him should he come toward this place instead of Winchester, and also to guard against any efforts of Early's troops.

The aggregate force required here now for the operations indicated is about that for which I have heretofore asked. Not over two-thirds of my own force is here, and of that not half is effectively mounted, owing to the want of shoes for the horses. An infantry force 2,000 strong, with four or six guns, starting from Paw Paw to-night or before morning, could overtake and harass Lee to-morrow sufficiently to make him lose many horses, and perhaps his guns.

Axes should be taken along to clear away obstructions. I am ready to undertake anything you may be pleased to direct, but with this force in its present condition I do not feel at liberty to suggest.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January 5,* 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department of the Cumberland:*

Several refugees have just arrived from Richmond and Staunton. They left Richmond on 27th ultimo. They give the usual reports

with regard to the miserable condition of affairs in the rebel capital. Gold at 22 to 30. They avoided Early's force in coming here, and passed a portion of it falling back on Sunday near Newtown. They met several wagons returning toward Staunton loaded with leather. Their report confirms those heretofore received and forwarded to you with regard to the force in the valley, except that they heard or saw nothing of Ewell. They state the force at three brigades of infantry and two of cavalry, besides Imboden's command. Imboden is not with his command, which is now under Colonel Smith.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

I cannot spare Colonel Oley's regiment from this point just now. It and the First Virginia will be sent you as soon as practicable. I have directed the quartermaster's department to issue whatever clothing Colonel Oley's men require.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 5, 1864—11.10 a. m.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Unless you have information from some other source than from this valley, I assure you I have troops enough to hold everything between Martinsburg and here. Early was moving toward Strasburg from Middletown yesterday. No troops of the enemy have been farther toward the road than Winchester, and that but a small force of cavalry. The report that our pickets have ever been driven in at Bunker Hill is not true.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 5, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have information this morning from Morse that he went up the Romney road 6 miles from Winchester; met Barry, a good Union man, well known here as such, who had gained from Williams, a prominent rebel in Winchester, the information that there were less than 6,000 rebels in the valley; that Lee and Early had gone to Petersburg, and that Imboden had gone up the valley. I believe the information to be reliable.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 5, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Samuel Trenary, from Winchester, with 3 refugees from Staunton, says no rebels in Winchester; rumored that 5,000 men in the valley. Sigmond Bach, from Staunton, came down valley in stage; passed a camp of infantry at New Market, one at Mount Jackson, and one about 2 miles this side Mount Jackson—Thomas', Rosser's, and Walker's commands. Fitz. Lee had gone on Wednesday afternoon. Lewis Kayton left Richmond 27th and Staunton 29th; passed Mount Jackson at night; saw three camps, said to be Lee's, Rosser's, and Imboden's.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 5, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN:

Scouts report Lee's and Rosser's forces encamped to-night at Romney; supposed to be on their way to Winchester. Their horses are badly broken down. They ought not to be permitted to return up the valley in safety. I send a copy of this to Averell.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 5, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Send every cavalryman you can spare to-morrow morning to Winchester. Fitz. Lee and Rosser are reported as falling back from Petersburg with horses and men badly used up. Colonel Boyd starts from Charlestown at daylight.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., January* 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: The rebels are fully impressed with the idea that I have been re-enforced instead of depleted, and hence the several changes in my front which I have brought to your notice during the past month. This deception is very well while it lasts. The Richmond Sentinel of the 1st January, 1864, has the following from the Wilmington Journal, which has been reflected by the papers at Raleigh:

At New Berne there is every reason to believe (says the Wilmington Journal) that the enemy is concentrating heavy re-enforcements at New Berne, with what view has not yet appeared, though circumstances would indicate an extension of his lines and a probable advance on Kinston, threatening the Wilmington and

Weldon road and, consequently, our line of communication. His lines now extend to Trenton on the west and White Oak River on the south. He probably contemplates extending them to Kinston on the one hand and New River on the other.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, January 6, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I return herewith the Secretary of the Navy's confidential letter of the 2d instant.

I am of opinion that all of our available forces not required to hold positions now in our possession should be sent to Louisiana and Texas, where they are now very much needed, and where they can operate with advantage during the winter. The occupation of Texas was not simply a military measure; it was one of State policy, decided upon by the President. General Banks has not a sufficient number of troops to defend Louisiana and the places he now holds in Texas, much less to drive the rebels from the portions of these States still in their possession. Unless the policy already adopted in regard to military operations west of the Mississippi be now abandoned the army there must be largely re-enforced, and if so re-enforced it is hoped that the Texas campaign will be terminated in time for other operations in the spring. It must also be borne in mind that all the armies in the field will be very seriously reduced in numbers during the next two or three months by furloughs given to those who re-enlist. If, in this condition of our forces, we attempt to accomplish too many things at the same time we shall probably fail in all.

The reduction of Fort Caswell alone will not secure to us the harbor of Smithville or close to the rebels and blockade-runners access to Wilmington. To accomplish these objects we must also capture the works on Smith's Island and those which command the New Inlet, a task not less difficult or requiring less time, even at a favorable season, than the reduction of Fort Sumter and the works on Morris Island.

It is the opinion of officers who have examined this question and are well acquainted with the localities and the obstacles to be overcome that Cape Fear River can be most easily secured by a force landing at Shandy Hill Inlet or New River Inlet and marching against Wilmington. This plan was agreed upon last year, but the forces intended for the expedition were diverted to Morris Island to co-operate with the proposed naval attack upon Charleston. Since then the defenses of Wilmington and Cape Fear River have been greatly strengthened, and it will now require a large force and probably a long time to effect their reduction. To attempt this in the present condition of our armies will involve the suspension of other and more important operations.

Under these circumstances I respectfully advise against the proposed expedition at the present time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, D. C., January* 6, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

If you can spare Major-General Hancock I desire that you will direct him to report to me as soon as convenient with a view to performing temporary special duty, but not to interfere with his command in your army.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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JANUARY 6, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY:

I have the honor herewith to transmit a statement showing the regiments and companies thus far ordered home from this army as veteran volunteers under the orders governing the subject, three-fourths of the same having re-enlisted. It will be seen that these organizations number in the aggregate about 6,000.

General Orders, No. 376, of November 21, 1863, from the War Department, taken in connection with the circular of December 15, 1863, from the War Department, requires that the volunteers sent home as organized bodies shall report through the governors of the States to the superintendent of the recruiting service; they are consequently placed beyond my control and may be kept from my command for an indefinite period, and perhaps transferred from it altogether. In view of the large number of volunteers that have been and may be furloughed in organizations as veteran volunteers in this army, I respectfully request that the superintendent of the recruiting service may be instructed to give those organizations immediately on reporting the thirty days' furlough provided for in General Orders, No. 376, and that on reassembling at the appointed places of rendezvous the regiments and companies be allowed not to exceed three weeks for recruiting and reorganization, and that at the expiration of that term they be sent back to this army. If those regiments and companies are permitted to remain in their States beyond the period indicated, it is probable that many other men who have re-enlisted or may re-enlist as veteran volunteers, with the understanding that they are to receive furloughs this winter, may by the absolute necessities of the service be kept with the army. I am clearly of the opinion that it is in every way for the best interests of the service that the regiments and companies that may be sent home as organized bodies be promptly returned to the field very soon after the expiration of their furloughs, and I shall be glad to learn that instructions to that effect have been given. I also ask that the men furloughed by me individually may not be permitted to be kept from the army after the expiration of their furloughs, by details or otherwise.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 12, 1864.

Unless otherwise directed they will return to their proper commands.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

[Inclosure.]

*Veteran volunteers sent to their respective States to the 5th day of January, 1864, inclusive.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st Delaware Infantry | 223 |
| 8th Illinois Cavalry | 415 |
| 1st Maryland Cavalry (seven companies) | 169 |
| 3d Michigan Infantry (three companies) | 72 |
| 5th Michigan Infantry | 154 |
| 7th Michigan Infantry | 164 |
| 16th Michigan Infantry | 270 |
| 4th New Jersey Infantry | 330 |
| 1st New York Artillery | 44 |
| 6th New York Cavalry | 411 |
| 9th New York Cavalry (eight companies) | 231 |
| 40th New York Infantry (eight companies) | 346 |
| 43d New York Infantry (four companies) | 184 |
| 59th New York Infantry Battalion | 114 |
| 61st New York Infantry (seven companies) | 51 |
| 63d New York Infantry (two companies) | 96 |
| 66th New York Infantry | 150 |
| 69th New York Infantry Battalion | 84 |
| 86th New York Infantry | 415 |
| 93d New York Infantry (seven companies) | 236 |
| 1st Pennsylvania Rifles (two companies) | 33 |
| 5th Pennsylvania Reserves (one company) | 25 |
| 53d Pennsylvania Infantry | 182 |
| 57th Pennsylvania Infantry | 165 |
| 91st Pennsylvania Infantry | 231 |
| 95th Pennsylvania Infantry (two companies) | 79 |
| 105th Pennsylvania Infantry | 278 |
| 2d U. S. Sharpshooters (eight companies) | 189 |
| 5th Vermont Infantry | 302 |
| 6th Vermont Infantry (one company) | 27 |
| 6th Wisconsin Infantry | 226 |
| 7th Wisconsin Infantry | 201 |
| Total infantry | 4,827 |
| Total cavalry | 1,226 |
| Total artillery | 44 |
| Aggregate | 6,097 |

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *January* 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

Can discover no alteration from previous reports of the position across the river. In the direction of Manassas and Thornton Gaps atmosphere too smoky for observation. Have seen no signal flag as yet on Cedar Mountain.

PAINE.

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CULPEPER, VA., *January* 6, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

All quiet on the line of pickets. I have made every possible inquiry in regard to Starke's Ford. Had before I inquired of headquarters, but can find out nothing. I will send the force as directed.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON, TWENTY-SECOND ARMY CORPS, *January* 6, 1864.

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IV. In accordance with instructions from the General-in-Chief, Brig. Gen. H. D. Terry will proceed without delay with the First Brigade of his division to Sandusky, Ohio, to act as a guard to the prisoners of war now on Johnson's Island.

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By command of Major-General Augur:

CARROLL H. POTTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 6, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington:*

The First Separate Brigade, General Averell, has been by my order named the Fourth Division of this department; this by reason of recent addition thereto, and to enable it to have an assistant commissary of musters. It has been found impracticable to muster properly and promptly veteran volunteers of the command, very many of whom are enlisting. To facilitate, I suggest the name of Capt. Edwin Frey, Twenty-eighth Ohio, for assistant commissary of musters, Fourth Division.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 6, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Yours of last night just received. I had already ordered Sullivan and Averell to be on the alert and cut off Lee's return if possible. What was your information last night? Is the enemy at Romney or at Moorefield Junction, or on the Northwestern pike east of Romney? What is your information from Thoburn? Has the enemy all left his front? Please answer me fully. How long will it take you to get ready to move? Did the Fourth and Sixth arrive? If so, see that they are taken care of.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 6, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN, *Harper's Ferry:*

The troops (infantry) sent to Martinsburg will be under your command. I will be down to see you on this and other subjects as soon as possible. Thoburn reports the enemy all gone from his front. It is reported by scouts that Lee and Rosser passed through Blue's Gap yesterday afternoon. The railroad agent informs me to-night that 1,400 troops leave Harper's Ferry for the Ohio River. What troops are they?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 6, 1864—6 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

I have been waiting to get some reliable information in regard to the movements of the enemy before we would make a movement. I learn just now by a telegram from Paw Paw that Lee and Rosser passed through Blue's Gap yesterday evening. It will therefore be useless to send an infantry force after them. Your cavalry scout will probably be able to pick up some stragglers and broken-down horses. Sullivan is after them. Will meet them this side of Winchester if they go that way.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 6, 1864—6 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

Scouts report Lee and Rosser having passed Blue's Gap late yesterday evening. The force in front of Thoburn have all left. What little effective cavalry I have is pursuing the enemy both from Petersburg and by way of Romney. Send out every available man you can raise to co-operate with Colonel Boyd, who is at Winchester to-night. I fear they will turn off by way of Cacapon Springs, however, and escape.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, January* 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. MARSTON,
*Commanding District of Saint Mary's:*

GENERAL: Information having been received here that a small cavalry force of the enemy is roaming about the counties of Westmoreland, Richmond, Northumberland, and Lancaster, Va., collecting conscripts, deserters, horses, mules, neat stock, and grain, and sending the same to Richmond and the rebel army, the major-general commanding this department commands that you cross the Potomac with such force as you may deem necessary and as can be spared from other service, and with the aid of the gun-boats at your command effect a landing in the above-named counties, capture or disperse any hostile force you may find there, seize and fetch away the negroes, live-stock, tobacco, and grain of rebel owners, and also the boats used in carrying men and supplies across the Rappahannock. The grain and boats and other property which you cannot fetch away you are authorized to destroy. It is to be hoped that large quantities of wood and cattle for the use of the prisoners may be thus obtained.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 8.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, January* 6, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The following officers are hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and will report in person, without delay, for duty as follows:

Brig. Gen. George W. Getty, U. S. Volunteers, Brig. Gen. James Barnes, U. S. Volunteers, to the commanding general of the Army of the Potomac.

Brig. Gen. James H. Ledlie, U. S. Volunteers, to the commanding general of the Army of the Ohio.

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By command of Major-General Halleck:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*January 7*, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
*Commanding Third Division,*
Col. D. T. JENKINS,
*Commanding Second Division:*

Information has just been received, the reliability of which the commanding general cannot vouch for, that the rebel cavalry are this side of Morrisville, and contemplate making an attack on the railroad between Warrenton Junction and Bristoe to-night. The commanding general directs you to keep a good lookout to-night.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
*Warrenton, Va., January 7*, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
*A. A. G., Secona Dw., Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with orders from Second Division headquarters, 100 men from First New Jersey Cavalry, under command of Lieut. J. Hobensack, of same regiment, were ordered out to pursue the enemy, who had attacked the reserve of the Third Pennsylvania. Lieutenant Hobensack reports that he took the Warrenton and Waterloo pike; found the track of the enemy; thence to the Salem and Waterloo road; followed its course to within 3 miles of Salem, where it changed its course, taking the Orleans road. The lieutenant reports the enemy at this point three hours advance of him; his horses much fatigued and gave up pursuit, returning by the Salem and Waterloo road. He captured 2 of Mosby's men, who he delivered to the division provost-marshal.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. TAYLOR,
*Comdg. First Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry Corps.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*January 7*, 1864—8 p. m.

Governor BOREMAN, *Wheeling:*

A dispatch just received from Colonel Thoburn, commanding at Petersburg, informs me that the rebel force threatening him for several days past retreated toward the Shenandoah Valley. The force was a formidable one, consisting of three brigades—Fitz. Lee's, Walker's, and Rosser's, all under the command of General Fitzhugh Lee. Deserters report that it was the intention of Lee to capture the garrison at Petersburg, take New Creek and Cumberland, destroy our stores, break the railroad by burning the bridges, &c. I am happy to inform you that the great raid undertaken by General Early, in retaliation for our late movement in this department, has thus far resulted in a complete failure or fizzle. An empty wagon train of Colonel Thoburn's, returning from Petersburg, was captured by a portion of the enemy's forces. With this exception they have not thus far been able to inflict upon us any injury. Many deserters are coming in, and our cavalry are picking up many stragglers. The railroad is safe; trains are running regularly. Weather very cold; snow several inches deep.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January 7*, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN, *Harper's Ferry:*

Have you any news from your cavalry? Just received dispatch from Colonel Thoburn at Petersburg. Lee's forces have all retreated toward the Shenandoah Valley. They have suffered terribly. A great many deserters. Thus far Early's great raid has been a fizzle. Weather cold; snowing fast. I am not well; taken a severe cold.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January 7*, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL, *Martinsburg:*

The troops arriving from Harper's Ferry were sent to General Sullivan, and will remain in his division for the present. I will send the Eighth [West Virginia] to you as soon as I can get cars, and the Eleventh [West Virginia] as soon as shod and ready. I will send the First [West Virginia] by way of Romney and Cacapon bridge. Keep your command as much in readiness as possible for any emergency. It is not to be expected that Early will go back without attempting something further, as thus far it has been a perfect fizzle.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, January 7*, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE, *U. S. Volunteers:*

GENERAL: You are hereby assigned to duty by the Secretary of War to recruit and fill up the old regiments of the Ninth Army

Corps, and to increase said corps to a strength of 50,000 men, for such service as the War Department may specially designate.

The following instructions will be observed, viz:

First. The recruitment will be conducted in the New England States and New York, also in Michigan and Pennsylvania, so far as the regiments from those States in the Ninth Corps are concerned. The term of enlistments will be for three years or the war.

Second. The old regiments of the corps must first be recruited at least to the minimum strength.

Third. When all the old regiments from any of the States designated are filled to the minimum, and the fact reported to the Department, new organizations may be undertaken in that State. This, however, will not be done without the special authority of the War Department being first obtained.

Fourth. The regiments that have gone home, or those that shall go after re-enlistment as veterans, are not to be included in this force unless they belong now to the Ninth Corps.

Fifth. The recruitment of the force will be conducted under and in compliance with the established regulations of the Department, copies of which will be furnished you. In filling the old regiments, the regimental recruiting details from the old regiments of the corps, now in the respective States, and such regimental details as may be made hereafter, will act under your authority. In connection with the regimental details, the system of recruitment through district provost-marshals may be employed. When the proper time shall have arrived to begin recruiting for new regiments or organizations, the recruitment thereof will be conducted under the provisions of General Orders, No. 75, series of 1862, and No. 366, series of 1863. All appointments of officers for the said organizations will be made by the governors of the respective States in which the organizations may be recruited.

Sixth. All musters into service of the forces herein authorized will be made by the authorized mustering officers in the respective States and in accordance with the requirements of the mustering regulations.

Seventh. All payments of bounties will be made in accordance with the regulations governing said payments. Veterans, or recruits for veteran regiments, will in all cases receive the highest bounties which may be authorized.

Eighth. Supplies and transportation for the forces in question will be furnished in accordance with existing regulations.

Under this authority you will immediately confer with the governors of the respective States concerned, and also the superintendent of the volunteer recruiting service therefor, with the view of speedily commencing and progressing in the recruitment herein authorized.

Your correspondence on this subject with the War Department will be conducted through the Provost-Marshal-General.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. FRY,
*Provost-Marshal-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *January* 8, 1864.

Col. J. B. SWEITZER, *Commanding First Division:*

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that the officer in command of the detachment of First Rhode Island Cavalry, serv-

ing with you, proceed with his command to the vicinity of Morrisville, and ascertain if possible the truth of the report sent to these headquarters last night respecting the movements of the enemy's cavalry. He will communicate with the officer in command of the cavalry on that flank of the corps, and gain all the information in his power. On his return he will report through your headquarters the result of his expedition.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*January* 8, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

All quiet on the lines. Four prisoners of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry have been sent in by the party that went to Starke's Ford. It has not returned nor made report as yet. Three deserters, two from Seventh Virginia Infantry, one from Sixth Virginia Cavalry, came in last night. They have not been with their regiments lately.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 8, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: In reply to your communication I have to state that as soon as practicable after information was received of the attack upon the picket reserve of the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry a force of 100 men was sent in pursuit. It was confidently expected that this pursuing party would overtake the enemy within a few miles of Warrenton. Everything having been done which was necessary, I awaited some intelligence from the party sent in pursuit that I might communicate this with the circumstances of the attack. A full investigation is being had of the affair, and the investigation will be continued until the responsible parties are brought to punishment. I forward herewith reports of the brigade officer of the day and an officer on duty with the reserve.* The daily morning report forwarded this morning noticed properly the attack and capture of the reserve.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 8, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following for the information of the major-general commanding the Cavalry Corps:

In compliance with orders, on the —— of December, 1863, the com-

*See p. 14.

manding officer of the First Brigade of this division established his brigade at Warrenton. The continued presence of Mosby's command in the immediate vicinity of the town made it necessary to picket strongly all the approaches. To give security to his command the commanding officer of the brigade found it necessary to confine the citizens of Warrenton to within the limits of his lines of pickets and to prevent citizens without from entering the town. This system is still adhered to, and no other can be adopted with safety to the brigade in its present position at Warrenton. There is in Warrenton a large population of women and children and old men. Cut off from all markets, very many of these families are suffering for the necessaries of life; all are impoverished. I am constantly importuned by women to be allowed to purchase from the subsistence department. By existing orders this is not permitted. The mills which supplied the citizens with flour and meal are at considerable distances from the town. If the citizens of Warrenton are to secure their necessary supplies by commerce with the surrounding country, then will the security of the brigade be constantly threatened; if, on the contrary, the proper and ordinary precautions are observed for the security of the command and the people of Warrenton kept within our lines, then will it become absolutely necessary to assist them in procuring the very necessaries of life; these necessaries can be procured in no other way but from the subsistence department. If a correct census should be made of the number of persons in each family, under proper restrictions, sales might be made without abuse. I respectfully request the action of proper authority upon this matter.

Your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.*

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ALEXANDRIA, *January* 8, 1864.

Colonel TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: My men have scouted to-day to Falls Church, Vienna, thence across through the woods to Fairfax road, also to Accotink. They report a skirmish at the picket-post at Flint Hill last night, but could not learn the particulars. They report all quiet to-day.

H. H. WELLS,
*Provost-Marshal.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C.,
*January* 8, 1864—3.55 p. m.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

As soon as the Tenth Maryland Regiment can be spared from Harper's Ferry it will be sent back to Baltimore. Its term expires on 29th instant.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

(Copy to General Lockwood, Baltimore.)

CUMBERLAND, *January* 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

To put a stop to further controversy at New Creek concerning questions of jurisdiction, I issue the following instructions to-day to the commanding officer First Virginia Cavalry: "You will promptly obey all orders from Colonel Mulligan, commanding division, during the continuance of the present emergency."

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 11. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, January* 8, 1864.

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27. The following-named officers are hereby assigned to duty with Major-General Burnside, U. S. Volunteers, at New York City, and will report in person without delay accordingly:

Lieut. Col. Lewis Richmond, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers.
Lieut. Col. Charles G. Loring, assistant inspector-general.
Lieut. Col. E. R. Goodrich, commissary of subsistence of volunteers.
Maj. E. M. Neill, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers.
Maj. J. L. Van Buren, additional aide-de-camp.
Maj. William Cutting, aide-de-camp.
Capt. Charles G. Hutton, aide-de-camp.
Capt. R. H. I. Goddard, aide-de-camp.
Capt. D. R. Larned, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers.
Capt. Duncan A. Pell, additional aide-de-camp.
Capt. G. R. Fearing, additional aide-de-camp.
Capt. J. F. D'Wolf, commissary of subsistence of volunteers.
Capt. W. H. French, commissary of subsistence of volunteers.
Capt. John A. Morris, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 9, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Headquarters Sixth Corps:*

I have the honor to inform you that Major-General Meade left for Washington this morning, to be absent a few days, and that the command of this army during his absence devolves upon you.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GARNETT'S SIGNAL STATION,
*January* 9, 1864—10 a. m.

General ROBINSON:

I can see no change nor any life about the enemy's position this morning. Small camps along the railroad toward Orange Court-House. No officers on Clark's Mountain. No station in sight.

WIGGINS,
*Lieutenant and Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY PICKET,
*Sperryville Pike, January* 9, 1864.

Major DURLAND,
*Commanding Second Brigade:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have just returned from a scout after a party of Hill's guerrillas, and having learned some particulars as to their movements I thought best to report the same that you may take measures for their capture if you think proper. I was informed by a negro early this morning that a small party, five to seven, were at or near Rixey's distillery, 2 miles outside lines, and that they had been watching the movements of our patrols to Hazel River. I immediately started in pursuit but was one hour too late, they having left and crossed the river 2 miles above the bridge on the pike. The negroes at the distillery, also the owner, said that they had been there and within one-half mile of the pike, 14 in number, for the purpose of "gobbling" up the patrol to Hazel, but were too late. They were also there yesterday morning, 18 to 20 in number, for the same purpose, but thinking your patrol too strong, did not attack. It is probable that they will come again to-morrow morning, at or near the same place and possibly in greater force, and I think if proper measures are taken they can be captured. One squadron would be enough, about 40 men. I have that number here, but of course could not, without special permission or orders, take them from the reserve. I am quite confident that I could capture the party if they should come, if the requisite number of men are placed at my disposal.

I am, respectfully, &c.,

SIMRELL,
*Lieutenant, Commanding.*

I do not think it safe to patrol to Hazel River with less than 20 to 30 men, and shall not send a patrol unless you direct.

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH NEW YORK CAVALRY,
*Camp near Culpeper, Va., January* 9, 1864.

Captain DONEHOO,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Brig., First Cav. Division:*

SIR: I have the honor to report my return with my command from a scouting expedition on the evening of the 8th instant.

According to orders and instructions received I proceeded, in command of 200 men, from camp toward Oak Shade Church by way of Rixeyville, starting about 11.30 p. m. on the 7th instant. On the march to Rixeyville I searched every house.

I marched as directed to Martha Rixey's and there captured four prisoners, members of the Little Fork Rangers, supposed to be an organization of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry. I then proceeded toward Mr. Starke's, but discovered nothing there or around that part of the country. I found the river at Starke's Ford entirely frozen over, and totally impossible to pass. At Rixey's Ford the large lumps of ice rushing down the river would have endangered both man and horse if I attempted a crossing.

I then scouted the country up the river toward Muddy Run Mountains without any further success. I observed a few scouts in the mountains, but could not succeed in capturing them. The prisoners I delivered over to the provost-marshal. Arms and equipments, &c., I have furnished to dismounted men of my regiment.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. PARNELL,
*Major, Commanding Regiment.*

I also wish to state that at every house between here and Oak Shade Church there are safeguards from our army. At the house of Mrs. Martha Rixey the safeguard (Williams, Company C, Fifth New Jersey Volunteers) said in hearing of some of my men that I had no right to take those men prisoners. Such men are dangerous when outside of our lines, and I would strongly recommend his arrest and trial.

The following is a list of property captured, viz: Four horses, four revolvers (two unfit for present use and different patterns), one carbine (Sharps), two sabers and belts, four saddles (worn), four bridles, different patterns and worn.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. PARNELL,
*Major, Commanding Regiment.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., January* 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Mr. Webster, of Massachusetts, came into our lines from Wilmington a few days since. He is a very intelligent and well-posted man, having resided in Florida and Georgia some five years for his health. He has been living at Augusta. At this place the rebels have their main powder-works, covering four acres. All the rails of the Florida roads are being removed to repair other roads at the north and west. He was at Wilmington two days. General Whiting has about 7,000 men in the works along the coast and sounds. Blockade running had ceased very much, and much excitement existed because the Confederate Government was about to take all the vessels on its account. Very strong works are being erected on Zeek's and Smith's Islands. Others report a force of about 1,000 of all arms at or near Kenansville, between Wilmington and Goldsborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, January* 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the General-in-Chief.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *January* 10, 1864.

General SETH WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

MY DEAR GENERAL: Gibbon has written to me asking for my prompt attention in one matter; I will therefore attend to it at once. In case of a reorganization of the army he wishes in his division his old brigade, the "Iron Brigade" of Wisconsin Infantry, and his old Battery B, Fourth [U. S.] Artillery, which he says would be anxious to join him. It would be very agreeable to me. I suppose the wishes of troops should be considered when known. In such a case I should like my old brigade, too. Put this on file for the contingency.

Truly, yours,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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BALD KNOB SIGNAL STATION,
*January* 10, 1864—1.30 p. m.

NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

Camp of one regiment of enemy's cavalry at railroad bridge seems deserted this a. m. One regiment of enemy's infantry came down to railroad bridge to relieve pickets. All quiet. No other change in enemy's camps.

CAMP and WIGGINS,
*Signal Officers.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *January* 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: Everything is reported quiet along the line of pickets. The Reserve Brigade report signal lights seen last night. A sharp watch has been kept and the patrols sent out on the right. The signal party report nothing except that the enemy near Rapidan Station and other side of the river seem busy building huts yesterday.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 10, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

General Averell reports Imboden's force in Newtown last night with four guns. This force may be contemplating an attack on Charlestown. Keep yourself advised fully of the enemy's movements.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 10, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I sent a small party to Winchester yesterday. There are no rebels of force in Winchester; 400 rebel cavalry at Kernstown. Citizens say that there has been conscripting in Winchester; took 60, black and white, during the week.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 10, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

We have reliable information that a party of rebels, 20 or 30, are to be in Winchester to-morrow at daylight. I send 45 men to start from here at 9 this evening, to enter Winchester at daylight to catch them.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 10, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Colonel Boyd received orders this afternoon to send a party out toward Newtown to-night. Be careful that your scouts do not mistake them for the enemy.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

S. B. McCULLOCH,
*Aide-de-Camp.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

Imboden's force with four pieces of artillery was about Middletown yesterday morning; Early in the vicinity of Strasburg. A rumor existed in Winchester last night that Early intends attacking this place as soon as the weather becomes favorable.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, January* 10, 1864.

ELIZABETH T. UPSHUR,
*Franktown, Va.:*

MY DEAR MADAM: I have read your note in relation to sending colored troops into Northampton County. If I could believe for a moment any of the consequences would follow which you detail it certainly should not be done. Experience, however, has shown that colored troops properly officered are less aggressive than white ones in the places where they are quartered, from the fact that they have been accustomed from their childhood to give up their will to the will of those who are over them.

You are entirely mistaken and misinformed as to what was done at Elizabeth City. I have had the committees from five counties, Pasquotank, Currituck, Camden, Perquimans, and Chowan, here, and their universal testimony is that the negro soldiers did nothing but what they were ordered to do. They committed no acts except under the orders of their officers. That we had to burn the houses and carry away the families of guerrillas is most true, but it was done under orders.

I have yet to learn of a single outrage by a colored soldier committed upon any of the people of Norfolk or Yorktown, and there are three regiments at one place and four at the other.

I can bear the same testimony of the negro regiments camped near Fortress Monroe, and if I send the negroes to the Eastern Shore it will be because of the outrages reported to me of the white troops there stationed. Therefore calm your fears. I will hold myself responsible that no outrage shall be committed against any peaceful citizens.

Very respectfully, yours,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 11, 1864—9 a. m.
(Received 4.35 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following dispatch just received. I trust the General-in-Chief will permit General Wheaton to remain at the Ferry, at least until the troops of Early retire from the valley:

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

I have sent my cavalry to Newtown to-night to obtain reliable information. If, when Colonel Boyd returns to Pennsylvania, as ordered, General Wheaton's brigade, as is rumored, should be ordered to the Army of the Potomac, this point will be left very weak. Please telegraph to Washington for orders for Wheaton to remain, at least until spring.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., January* 11, 1864—2 p. m.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

General Wheaton's brigade has not been ordered back to the Army of the Potomac, and will not be at present.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, *January* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

Scout just in from Winchester and Newtown; no enemy found there; cavalry picket at Strasburg. Early believed to have fallen back to Mount Jackson or New Market. Will you be down to-morrow?

JER. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., January* 11, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*A. A. G., Dept. of West Virginia, Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: Colonel Thoburn reports that a deserter from McNeill's company arrived yesterday morning at Petersburg, who reports that the force in the vicinity of Moorefield is composed of detachments from the commands of Imboden and Fitzhugh Lee. He states that the conversation among the men is that Early is at Orkney Springs and Fitzhugh Lee on Lost River; this, however, is contradicted by the statement of one of our prisoners who escaped from Brock's Gap on the 8th instant, who left Fitzhugh Lee's entire command in camp. He heard them talk of shoeing their horses and making another demonstration in the direction of Petersburg. The supply train has reached Petersburg in safety. The enemy was in wait for it across the Patterson's Creek Mountain, but owing to the strength of the guard did not attack.

I am, captain, faithfully,

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 11, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

Have you any news this a. m.? Keep your cavalry active and well to the front so as to keep yourself fully advised of enemy's movements. Sullivan's cavalry went toward Winchester last night. Mosby attacked Major Cole in Loudoun County near Harper's Ferry yesterday morning, and was handsomely repulsed.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

I have no news yet. Sent a reconnoitering party to Winchester last night. I have the country properly picketed and patrolled from North Mountain to the Opequon. I do not think, judging from what I have seen and heard, that this section has ever been thoroughly and properly picketed, which may account for occasional surprises.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

Scout returned from Winchester reports all quiet. Brings in two ladies from Montgomery County, who report having seen General Early on Saturday, 9th instant, moving up the valley with his forces 10 miles beyond Woodstock.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 16. } *Washington, January* 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

57. *Ordered*, That Major-General Hancock be, and he is hereby, assigned to recruit and fill up the Second Army Corps, of which he is commander, to the number of 50,000 men, for such duty as may be specially assigned to said corps by the War Department.

58. *Ordered*, That Major-General Burnside be, and is hereby, assigned to recruit and fill up the Ninth Army Corps, of which he is commander, to the number of 50,000 men, for such duty as may be specially assigned to said corps by the War Department.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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BALD KNOB SIGNAL STATION,
*January* 12, 1864—12 m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST ARMY CORPS:

Too misty this a. m. for reliable observations. Some rebel drums just heard.

WIGGINS and CAMP,
*Signal Officers.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*January* 12, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: A colored man has just come in the lines, and reports that about 1 mile outside our pickets on the Bealeton road, about 9

p. m., he saw cavalry, about 100 in number, some dismounted holding the horses of others while some were fixing their arms. I have notified my command to be ready for any emergency, and have another squadron saddled in camp to move out if an attack is made at any point.

Very respectfully,

J. P. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 12, 1864—4 p. m.
(Received 6.15 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Sullivan's cavalry scouts report Early falling back up the Shenandoah Valley. He was believed to be near Woodstock on Saturday. All quiet in the western portion of my department. The snow in the mountains and excessive cold weather preclude any active operations on my part or the enemy's. The Kanawha River is frozen over. I go to-night to Washington to testify in the case of Colonel McReynolds before court-martial.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *January* 12, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Six deserters from Imboden have just come in; report from 500 to 800 men of that force at Dayton. Rosser is at Timberville with about 1,000; no others in the valley; says there is much desertion.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 12, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Send a force to Newport, Shepherdstown, and along the river to prevent all persons, soldiers, officers, and citizens from crossing until further orders. Send instructions to Kearneysville, Duffield's, and all picket stations on the railroad; arrest all persons crossing with horses.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

D. H. HARKINS,
*Major, &c.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, January* 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. A. WILD,
*Norfolk:*

GENERAL: You will order the Tenth U. S. Colored to break up their camp at or near Craney Island and proceed to the Eastern Shore

of Virginia, headquarters at Drummondtown, there to replace the present force, relieving all officers and soldiers on duty there except the provost-marshal. A copy of this order will be given to the commanding officer of the regiment, so that the officers in command there will be relieved and report with their troops to General Lockwood.

The officer in command of the Tenth U. S. Colored will caution all his officers that there must be the strictest diligence and vigilance that no outrages of any sort are committed by his troops, for both he and his officers will be held personally responsible by me if any such are committed. The inhabitants there fear greatly the quartering of negro troops in their midst. I depend upon him and the good conduct of his troops to correct that misapprehension, for I assure both him and them that the most summary punishment will be visited upon them for any breach of discipline, especially any that shall affect peaceable men. The commanding officer will immediately take measures to recruit his regiment to the fullest extent. He will give receipts to all loyal men who have taken the oath prescribed by the President's proclamation for any slave which may be recruited. He will report to me immediately any deficiency in his officers, incompetency, or any vacancy that may exist, that the one may be taken notice of and the other filled. He will call upon the quartermaster for the necessary transportation, and report to these headquarters the execution of this order.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 13, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The commanding general having been informed that ladies are in the practice of passing through our lines at their option, without hinderance from the pickets, and visiting Catlett's Station for the purchase of goods, &c., directs me to call your attention to the matter, and to instruct you to allow no parties to pass your pickets unless properly authorized to do so. It is also stated that deserting teamsters are permitted to pass to the rear along the line of the railroad. The commanding general desires that you cause all such parties to be carefully examined, and if it is found that they have not proper passes, that they be sent back to the command to which they belong.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 20. } *Washington, January* 14, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Camp Distribution, near Alexandria, Va., will be broken up as soon as practicable and discontinued, and Camp Convalescent, at Alexandria, Va., will hereafter be, and be known as, Rendezvous of Distribution, near Alexandria, Va., and the place from which all

men fit for field service arriving in the Department of Washington will be distributed to their regiments. In future, none but men fit for field service and deserters will be sent to this rendezvous. The Surgeon-General will see that all men in general hospitals are transferred to the Invalid Corps, discharged, or retained for treatment until fit for field service, as may be proper in each case, unless otherwise disposed of by proper authority, and not forwarded to this camp before they are fit for field service, as has heretofore been the custom.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC—SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
*January* 14, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following report has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded:

SIGNAL STATION, GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN,
*January* 14, 1864.

Captain NORTON, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The enemy's line as seen from this station is as follows: About a division of infantry extends along the hills from Clark's Mountain to Rapidan railroad bridge. At that place is a small artillery camp and two guns in position. Farther down the road, leading along the river, two more are in position. Heavy smoke in the direction of Orange Court-House, indicating that the bulk of the enemy's force is there. Also a considerable activity in their railroad trains in that direction. So misty that no perfect observation can be made.

WIGGINS,
*Lieutenant and Signal Officer.*

Very respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
*Captain and Acting Chief Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS, *January* 14, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I respectfully request that a depot may be established at Warrenton Junction for the use of the troops there stationed. A battery of artillery, two squadrons of cavalry, and a brigade of infantry occupy that station, and are compelled to haul their supplies of subsistence and forage over a bad road from Catlett's.

The staff officers of the infantry brigade can receive and distribute the supplies and take charge of the depot. As there are "sidings" and a branch railroad at the Junction, I cannot understand why any objections should be made against the establishment of the depot. I hope this subject will receive the attention of the major-general commanding, and that the comfort and well-being of the troops may be considered.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *January* 14, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel TAYLOR:

An officer of the One hundred and fifty-fifth New York, 1 mile west of Burke's, reports troops moving south of railroad last night. It was probably the squadron of our cavalry which went from Vienna to Wolf Run Shoals, as ordered.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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WAR DEPT., U. S. MIL. RAILROADS, SUPT.'S OFFICE,
*Alexandria, Va., January* 14, 1864.

General RUFUS INGALLS,
*Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: The great loss of forage in transit, referred to in your telegram of last night, arises solely from stealing by the soldiers and teamsters stationed as guards along the road. It probably is not too strong a word to say that these guards, in some localities, are organized for plundering from trains. At and near Bull Run bridge they work with hooks, made from brake-rods stolen from wrecked cars, and in one case reported, with a long rope attached to the rod and with the other end made fast to a stump, the more effectually to pull off a bale of hay or barrel of pork after being harpooned. Setting aside the loss of the supplies, the act is most dangerous in probable effects, as the hay or barrel, rolling under the wheels, would wreck the train through Bull Run bridge into the waters below. Repeated cases are reported to me by conductors of the depredations by these guards at the wood-yard 1 mile east of Burke's, at Burke's Station, Bull Run bridge, Bristoe, and Nokesville.

If required, I can furnish statements, duly sworn to, of the stealing of grain and supplies at the above-mentioned points. Teamsters at the wood-yard 1 mile east of Burke's have stolen much grain from the cars, and not only do the soldiers steal the stakes and rails put around platform cars to protect grain, but the other day at Bristoe the soldiers there got upon a train which had taken siding to meet and pass another train and commenced with an ax to knock the sides out of new box-cars. To such testimony as this, which can be substantiated fully, Captain Wyman, acting assistant quartermaster at Alexandria, can add a similar experience of his own. Cars thrown from the track and rolled down embankments to get them out of the way until we can find opportunity to get hold of them again are more often perfectly serviceable than otherwise. The case of the accident at Bristoe is in point. Not only were the cars badly destroyed by soldiers to obtain the lumber, but the brasses and other work on the locomotives were carried off. I have eye-witnesses to attest these facts, one of them one of my own master mechanics.

Yet General Crawford, on being notified of this stealing, after investigation (the stealing had been done), reported that "much of the material of the broken cars was used by my own people." And I fully understand, too, the earnestness which General Crawford has always shown in his co-operation with us, his unvarying courtesy, and believe that he did all that the present organization of the soldiers

guarding the line would allow. It is difficult to explain, in the limits of an ordinary communication, that the guards on the trains can be watchful and wide-awake and yet fail to prevent these thefts as fully as is desirable. I will only say that darkness and the slow rate of speed of a heavy freight train up the steep grades of the Orange line are great aids to the thieves. There is no fault to be found with the present train guards, and the Eleventh U. S. Infantry are especially effective. Having one portion of the train guards at Rappahannock works badly, however, and I would respectfully request that the force for train guards be increased to 800, and all stationed at Alexandria. Heretofore I have kept silent on this matter, until I thought the time had arrived to make the present statement.

I believe the fault to originate mainly from lack of organized purpose and the ignorance of duty on the part of officers in charge of the troops guarding the road. Their idea is simply to protect generally themselves, and next the road, by going off on some hill and digging a bastion, or selecting a good site for a camp, far or near from the line, which may possibly stand in danger of a guerrilla attack, but the trains of which are only regarded as simply their means of supply or private transportation. There should be a well-defined system of guarding the road, thoroughly understood by every officer connected with such service, and, in my opinion, the officers thus commanding guards should be immediately at the road, and a captain or lieutenant commanding, with at least 25 men, on duty at every station, and these officers being directly responsible for the safety of the trains, platforms, buildings, switch-stands, water-tanks, and railroad property generally, so far as molestation is concerned, from soldiers and evil-doers. Every train should be watched at all hours by men on duty, and no one should be allowed to take anything off or put anything on board the train, except by the direct knowledge and under the inspection of the conductor.

Between stations should be a constant patrol to look after obstructions and thieves, and the officers thus far designated should make daily reports of the hour every train arrived at and left each station to the commanding officer of the regiment, and include in such reports any observations on the imperfect loading of cars, attempts of persons to create difficulty or to commit trespass, and all other details, the report having the effect of itself to promote vigilance in its maker and at the same time be a constant reminder of his duty as officer of a road guard.

I have written, sir, with many interruptions, and feel that I have failed to do justice to the subject, whilst my respect for you and your kindness prevents a belief that you will consider any portion of my communication presuming or officious, only stated plainly, with a desire to further the service and the needs of the army to the utmost. Regarding the point that much of our trouble arises within the command of General Augur, I would respectfully request that if any alterations in the road guard are made or any new orders be issued that the same be enforced by headquarters, or caused to be enforced, from Washington to the Rapidan. An accident (four cars down the bank through a switch at Culpeper) occurred two weeks since by a citizen popping up from ambush, throwing the switch wrong, and rapidly cutting stick over the hill, and no one being near but the trainmen at the farther end of the train. The case, too, in daylight,

of soldiers cutting box-cars to pieces, with a commissioned officer near by looking on and not saying a word, has its counterpart again in the report of a conductor, handed in to me five minutes ago, and which, as a sample of our daily annoyance, I beg to inclose.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. DEVEREUX,
*Superintendent.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*January* 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to return the report of the ambulance officer of this corps, made October 31 to the medical director of this corps, by him referred to Doctor Letterman, by him indorsed in the manner of a complaint, and by you referred to me for information as to why I have not made the details prescribed in General Orders, No. 85.†

This paper reached me at the moment we were preparing for the movement across the Rapidan, and I was unable fully to answer the question in writing in the way I deemed its importance deserved. I, however, explained my action verbally to the commanding general to about the same extent as follows:

General Orders, No. 85, makes details by regiments without regard to their strength, and would not be different if all the regiments were of the full strength of 1,000 men. I presume, therefore, it was deemed sufficient for full regiments. The exposure and service that diminishes the number or the ranks leaves those remaining more able to endure fatigues, so that it may safely be assumed that if the rates of three ambulances to 1,000 men in a regiment is sufficient, one ambulance to a regiment of 333 veterans would certainly be so.

The lack of any provision in General Orders, No. 85, graduating the ambulance corps to the wants of the service, in the case where a necessity for it can be so mathematically demonstrated as I have done above, indicated to me either that an oversight had been committed in drawing up the order, or that, like many other things provided by orders and regulations, the provision was meant that we should not exceed that amount, not that it was compulsory upon us to have it. Acting thus upon my understanding of the spirit of the order, and with a fair knowledge of the wants of the service, derived from experience in battle as a commander of a regiment, of a brigade, of a corps, and as a member of the commanding general's staff, and by virtue of my position as a corps commander, which requires me to make my command most efficient as a whole, and not inordinate in its subordinate parts, I decided not to make the increased details and retained the applications for them.

I inclose these applications with a report of the ambulance officer of the strength of the ambulance force at the time.

The aggregate of all the officers and men at the time with the Second Army Corps, in every capacity, was about 12,500. This, at the rate allowed for a full regiment of 1,000 men. would give us thirty-eight ambulances and 114 men for an ambulance corps.

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*Not found.

†See Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 95.

The report of the ambulance officer shows that we had at that time 113 ambulances and 247 men, this already giving this army corps, largely composed of hardy and enduring soldiers, seventy-five ambulances and 133 men more than we would have been allowed if the corps had been composed of full regiments of new troops of the same number of men.

It seemed to me that our ambulance train needed diminishing instead of increasing, and I think so now. I earnestly recommend that General Orders, No. 85, be so modified as to adapt the ambulance train to the strength and necessity of my command.

Dr. Letterman's indorsement says:

I am of the opinion that detailing men for the ambulance corps, instead of diminishing the effective strength of this army on the battle-field, will increase it *if* (I italicize the if) the officers of the line will enforce the provision allowing no one but this corps to remove wounded.

Can such a provision be enforced? Articles 44, 50, and 52 of the Articles of War forbid a man leaving the ranks in almost all definable cases. But who can enforce it in the heat and carnage of a desperate battle? To send a good man at such a time after one who has run away would be to emulate the dog who dropped his meat in the stream and rushed after its own reflection.

I was aware that it has been claimed as one of the advantages of this extensive ambulance corps that it diminishes the amount of sneaking from the battle-field, if the officers of the line do their duty. It is supposed to operate, first, by taking from the men in the ranks all pretense for leaving, and, second, by having men for this duty wearing a special badge to assist the line officers in recognizing those entitled to carry off the wounded. In the confusion of battle, however, no badge will be easily recognized; the good men and officers are all looking to the front and fighting, and have no time to look after cowards in the rear. At such time these latter will not need a pretense to run away, and if in doing so they carry off wounded men they perhaps save their self-respect as well as their lives, and do all the good they can. If they remain long enough to do this they do all they can be made to do, and the sooner they are gone the better. Nothing will keep men in the ranks in battle but a soldier's pride—the devotion of a patriot.

The battle of Gettysburg, where this corps repulsed the assault of the enemy only by sustaining immense loss, is certainly a place to point to where the line officers did their duty, if it can ever be said of any line officers. There, too, we had a special ambulance corps, and yet Surg. Justin Dwinelle, surgeon in charge of the Second Corps hospital, reports:

I think 1,000 a low estimate of the numbers of able-bodied men who found their way to the Second Corps hospital by the night of July 6 who had no business there, and ought to have been with their regiments.

I think, then, the ambulance detail as a means of increasing the effective strength of this army on the battle-field is a failure, even if the officers do their duty. But the whole basis of the argument supposes that we must remove pretenses from the men's thoughts in order to have them do what duty the Articles of War enjoin. Men should not leave the ranks if there were no ambulance corps, and those who will run away before the terrifying aspect of the enemy's charge will not be stopped by not having an excuse, nor by the drawn swords of their officers, nor even by the bayonets of a provost guard.

The ambulance corps increases the strength of the army a little by carrying along the weary who may still have strength enough to fight, but these are few. They are rare cases where a sick man leaves the ambulances to take part in a battle. The number of men which these details take from the battle-field exceed these many hundred times.

There are, in my opinion, but two ways to look at an ambulance train in actual warfare—first, as an incumbrance, and second, as a humane institution, and the only question is how far we can afford to suffer the one for the sake of the other. That it is an incumbrance cannot be doubted, and I maintain that no mere medical officer can form a proper appreciation of how great a one it may be made, and how vitally it may affect the success of the corps to which it is attached. War itself is not a humane institution; it compels us to endure suffering ourselves, to inflict greater on our enemy. Its object is to inflict the greatest injury to an enemy with the least to ourselves, and thus succeed. To introduce anything into an army organization as an act of humanity in a way to imperil its success would be to defeat the object of warfare, and make it a proceeding of unmitigated cruelty.

The full ambulance corps of the army corps, as at present constituted, will occupy as much space on a road as one of its divisions. The artillery of a corps occupies about as much more, and the ammunition nearly as much more; that is, the three trains together occupying as much space as the whole corps. To mix them up with the infantry on the road thus stretches them out twice their front of battle, and dilutes their strength one-half at one point. The confusion produced by the effort of these trains to escape from the lines when the enemy attacks is enough to disorganize any troops but the very staunchest. These trains had, in my opinion, a most important influence on the conduct of the Eleventh Corps at Chancellorsville, which I was present to witness. To put the wagons in large groups would leave places in the column without any defense, and an attack of the enemy at such a point would cut the column in two and destroy entirely the control of the commander over one part or the other of his army, and probably prove disastrous.

Such was the attack made on me at Bristoe, October 14, that if I had had my whole ambulance and ammunition train with me, or if the assault had fallen on the part of the column where the little I had was, I should have been beaten. I am aware that this argument is somewhat against our ammunition and artillery trains, as well as ambulances, and I think they, too, are in excess. But they (especially the artillery) are necessary to the fighting strength of the army; but the ambulances and ammunition trains were the source of the greatest solicitude to me on the march from Auburn to Bristoe; to save them they nearly occasioned my having to fight Ewell's corps in an unfavorable position, unaided, at Auburn; and but for these trains and those of the rest of the army at Brentsville I need not have had the engagement at Bristoe, and which, though it, by great good fortune, was a success, was a narrow escape from disaster; it was giving battle with a small detachment of an army at the chosen point of concentration by a skillful enemy. As it was, nothing but darkness enabled me to withdraw, and without that, or the timely arrival of the rest of our army, we should have been destroyed. I detail this to show what an important part these incumbrances may take in the operations of an army. Exam-

ples are unlimited. The solicitude which I felt for this train caused me to detach a brigade and send it to the rear while in the presence of the enemy, at the very time I was most likely to need the train, thus losing its use and that of a brigade beside. The commanding general shared this solicitude with me at that time.

General Gregg, independently of my action, made precisely the same disposition of his ambulance train that I did—sent it to the rear, and it joined me at Catlett's Station. His trains (that allowed one cavalry division and a few of our own) sufficed to carry off all our wounded in the fight at Bristoe. Viewing the ambulance train simply as a humane institution, I think it may be assumed that if it appreciably diminishes the fighting force in the time of action, or if it necessitates an action at an improper place, or prevents our movements from being timely, or in any way affects the success of the body to which it is attached, it defeats its own object. It should be reduced just to that limit which will allow a sufficient force to gather the wounded, after the battle at the point is decided, to the most convenient places to receive the attention and care of the nurses and surgeons, and not with any view of transporting them any distance from the field. In the event of being driven from the field, details of surgeons and attendants should be left to care for the wounded. This is more humane than carrying them away by causing less suffering and loss of life, and only those need be left who are badly wounded in the body or lower limbs. This I think should be done with bad cases of fever and other diseases. So pertinaciously has our own medical department clung to its sick in many of our movements to the front, even when expecting an engagement we have set out with our ambulances full with the sick. When I went forward with our cavalry to Culpeper on September 13, I had to send back our ambulances filled with the sick brought along from beyond the Rappahannock, and send to General Newton for the ambulances of the First Corps to take the wounded cavalrymen.

I have heard it argued in favor of keeping our own large ambulance train that we would be all prepared when the regiments were filled up. I think such foresight might be classed with that of Mrs. Toodles in the play. Nor do I wish to be considered as treating this subject with levity by this comparison, for my feelings are very much like Mr. Toodles' were.

Responsible as I am for the safety and success of the command with which I am intrusted, I claim to know better with my experience what is better in any subordinate part of my command even than the officer who devotes himself to that part especially. Of what use would this ambulance train be on a lost battle-field, and of what avail would be to my reputation to plead then excess of incumbrances of which I have so often complained? I cannot abandon this property without dishonor if it is assigned to me, and thus in fighting—it may be to save it—I fight to save honor and not the incumbrance. But this is not true warfare, that has for its object injury to the enemy with the least to ourselves, and no army is properly organized that contains anything to interfere with this. The excess of ambulances and details therefore, I think, form a considerable part of that impedimenta with which, in my opinion, this army has always been unnecessarily afflicted.

I will close this lengthy report by urging that the provisions of

General Orders, No. 85 (now that I perceive its actual wording to be enforced), be modified so that the ambulance force shall be pro rata to the strength of regiments.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Corps.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *January* 15, 1864.

I. The number of surprises and captures that have been made of pickets, scouts, patrols, and other parties belonging to this command, by guerrilla parties in the United States uniform, demand the most energetic action of the commanders concerned to prevent such occurrences.

Hereafter no individual or party of men will be permitted to approach within rifle-shot until it is conclusively ascertained what is their character and who they really are. Parties of more than two persons will be halted at least 300 yards distant, and but one person under any circumstances will be permitted to advance to identify the party. The officer or non-commissioned officer in command will be held responsible for the character of the persons they allow to approach their position. No excuse will hereafter be accepted for a surprise or capture under the plea of the enemy being in our uniform, or having false papers, or other pretensions. It is the first duty of every officer and soldier to know beyond a doubt every party they may come in contact with, and whenever there exists this doubt the parties concerned will be secured, and the facts reported immediately to the proper headquarters for further action.

The names of all officers, non-commissioned officers, or privates who are surprised on duty and captured by the enemy will hereafter be reported to these headquarters. The officers will be recommended for dismissal and the enlisted men will be tried by court-martial should they prove to be the responsible parties.

II. Every guerrilla or other rebel wearing the uniform of a United States soldier caught in the act of making war against any of the forces of this command will be hung on the spot.

III. Division commanders will cause this order to be carefully read to each of the regiments of their command, that the men and officers may fully understand it. A report will be made to these headquarters to that effect after these instructions have been read out in each division.

By command of Major-General Pleasonton:

E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CHIEF ENGR. OF DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON,
*January* 15, 1864.

Col. J. C. KELTON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I respectfully request to be relieved from duty at this place and assigned to duty in the field.

It is proper to state that I had intended on the close of the campaign of 1862 to ask to be assigned to duty with troops, believing

that after serving two years as an engineer officer I was entitled to share with my juniors the advantages in the way of promotion attending the command of troops, and the still more important advantage of instructing myself in all the duties of the soldier, convinced that such practice was important to me even for a complete knowledge of my duties as an engineer. All intentions of this kind were cut short by an order assigning me to the command of Washington, its troops, and defenses. It was an important command, more important at that moment than it had ever before or since been, and one in its magnitude beyond what my actual rank would have authorized me to expect. Had I preserved it, it would have enabled me at the same time to complete the defenses which I, as chief engineer of the Army of the Potomac, had commenced. The retreat to Washington of the Army of the Potomac and the reinstatement of General McClellan in its command caused me to be superseded. At no period was the importance of the defenses so fully appreciated. It was felt, too, that if they had saved Washington they were yet really incomplete and inadequate. The safety of Washington was the safety of the nation's cause, and under this feeling, and this only, I accepted a task which rather fell on me by force of circumstances than was imposed by superior command.

That task is essentially completed, and though there may be much actual work yet to be done, I do not feel as if there was sufficient reason that I should remain in connection with a duty which causes me to be considered unavailable for any command or for promotion.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient,

J. G. BARNARD,
*Brigadier-General, &c.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 16, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington:*

I have the honor to report that up to and including the 14th instant 20,816 men enlisted in this army as veteran volunteers; of these, 5,142 were in the Cavalry Corps. This does not include those re-enlisted in General Wheaton's and Shaler's brigades since their detachment from this army.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*January* 16, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Enemy's force on range of hills extending from Clark's Mountain to right of Rapidan railroad bridge seems to have increased. Can see camps capable of containing from 12,000 to 15,000 troops, while heavy smoke rises from behind some of the ridges. Smoke still very heavy in the direction of Orange Court-House. A few cavalry patrols on Robertson River. Too misty to see Lieutenant Thickstun's station.

WIGGINS and CAMP,
*Signal Officers.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY RESERVE BRIGADE,
*January* 16, 1864.

Capt. T. C. BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division:*

CAPTAIN: In reply to your communication of yesterday, requiring an explanation of the apparent discrepancy between the alleged reports made from these headquarters on the 14th instant, of 2,130 enlisted men present, and of 2,197 serviceable horses, and of 100 dismounted men in this brigade, I have the honor to make the following explanation:

The official copy of Special Orders, No. 4, current series, Army of the Potomac, furnished to these headquarters from your office, does not require a report of the number of officers and enlisted men present, but only of such of them as are present for duty. The special field return of this brigade forwarded upon the 13th instant was made out in accordance with that order, and although there are more than 2,600 enlisted men present in the brigade, only those for duty were reported, which amounted in the aggregate to 2,235, instead of the number specified in your letter. Had the aggregate number of men present been exhibited, it is probable that no doubt upon this subject would have arisen; for taking this aggregate and comparing it with the aggregate number of horses reported, both serviceable and unserviceable, after deducting officers' private horses, it will very readily be seen that the report of over 100 dismounted men in the brigade was undoubtedly correct.

In regard to the alleged discrepancy between the number of horses reported in the memoranda and in the estimate of the brigade quartermaster, I respectfully state the following facts: The memoranda report shows simply the number of cavalry horses in the regiment, *i. e.*, those ridden by soldiers, and in many instances including officers' private horses; whereas report of the brigade quartermaster exhibits the total number of horses in the brigade, including those used in the quartermaster's and other staff departments, in each regiment and at brigade headquarters, for all of which he is required to provide forage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 16, 1864.
(Received 11.45 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following dispatch has been received by General Sullivan, by which you will learn that the report of yesterday that General Stuart was in Leesburg with a large cavalry force is unfounded:

HDQRS. BATTALION P. H. B. CAVALRY, MARYLAND VOLS.,
*Loudoun County, Va., January* 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I proceeded yesterday morning on the proposed scout to Leesburg, via Hillsborough and Waterford. Saw nothing of the enemy until we reached Leesburg, where we captured 2 of Mosby's and 2 of White's command; also 4 horses and horse equipments, 1 of which was a private horse taken

from my camp Sunday morning. From Leesburg we took the Snickersville pike, and went 4 miles beyond Purcellville; from thence the mountain road, through Woodgrove, to camp. I gained no information of the movements of White's or Mosby's command.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

HENRY A. COLE,
*Major, Commanding.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CHAMBERSBURG, PA., *January* 16, 1864.
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

It is reported that a mob will prevent Governor Curtin being inaugurated on the 19th instant. I think not. By invitation of the Legislature committee I shall be present.

COUCH,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. } HDQRS. MIDDLE DEPT., 8TH ARMY CORPS,
*Baltimore, Md., January* 16, 1864.

I. Col. William S. Fish, First Regiment Connecticut Cavalry, provost-marshal Eighth Army Corps, is hereby relieved from duty at these headquarters, and will report for duty with his regiment.

2. Maj. H. Z. Hayner, aide-de-camp, is appointed provost-marshal Middle Department, Eighth Army Corps, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. He is subject only to the orders of the department commander, will receive instructions from him, and will report daily at these headquarters.

II. The Third Regiment Maryland Volunteer Cavalry, Col. Charles Carroll Tevis commanding, awaiting transportation, is hereby detached from the cavalry reserve of this army corps and will report directly to these headquarters.

2. Col. William S. Fish, First Regiment Connecticut Cavalry, is assigned to the command of the Cavalry Reserve constituted in General Orders, No. 61, of 1863, from these headquarters.

By order of Brigadier-General Lockwood:

WM. H. CHESEBROUGH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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JANUARY 17, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
*Philadelphia:*

The following telegram has just been received from the General-in-Chief:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January* 17, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

General Grant reports that one division of Ewell's corps has joined Longstreet in East Tennessee, and that another division is expected.

H. W. HALLECK.

Scouts from these headquarters returned this morning state that no re-enforcements have been sent to Longstreet from Lee's army of late. This statement is corroborated by that of a deserter from the First Maryland Cavalry, who left his regiment on the 13th instant.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 17, 1864—12.45 p m. (Received 3.50 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Your telegram to General Meade has just been received. General Meade has not yet returned. Scouts from these headquarters returned this morning report: Longstreet has had no re-enforcement from Lee of late, and that Heth's division that went to Staunton on Christmas is returning to its old camps near Orange Court-House. A deserter from the First Maryland Cavalry (rebel), who left his regiment on 13th instant, states no re-enforcements have been sent away from Lee's army to Longstreet of late, and everything is quiet.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 17, 1864.

Major-General FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

The report of Colonel Staunton, corps officer of the day, has been received and submitted to the commanding general, who directs that no citizens be permitted to pass outside the picket-lines without authority from these headquarters, and all citizens coming in the lines will be sent under guard to the provost-marshal-general.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA.,
*January* 17, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: The following has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*January* 17, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Contraband just came in says that the troops around Orange Court-House have been and are moving toward the river, which may probably account for the increase of camps in our front. Cavalry pickets discovered this p. m. this side of Rapidan.

J. C. WIGGINS,
*Lieutenant and Signal Officer.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff.*

CULPEPER, *January* 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

My pickets at Somerville Ford report increased firing of the enemy's pickets and more camp-fires of the enemy near Rapidan Station. I have ordered increased vigilance on that front and for the patrols and scouts on the right to move out. Will forward any information of any event that this demonstration may be intended to mask.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *January* 17, 1864.

Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The detachment of cavalry sent to Wolf Run Shoals and Dumfries returned last night, bringing in one prisoner from the Ninth Virginia Infantry. Another detachment sent out day before yesterday returned last night, having scouted as far as Goose Creek and found everything quiet. Some of General Kelley's men are reported to have been at Leesburg.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *January* 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff:*

The cavalry ordered the day before yesterday to Leesburg and Snickersville and to return by way of Upperville returned to camp at 2 o'clock this a. m., bringing in 1 prisoner from Mosby's command. Colonel Lowell reports all quiet in this vicinity.

Respectfully,

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Petersburg, W. Va., January* 17, 1864.

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division:*

LIEUTENANT: I beg leave to draw your attention to the transportation of supplies from New Creek Station to this place. With the breaking up of the present cold weather the roads will become almost impassable with mud. This is the concurrent testimony of all the responsible citizens of this vicinity and was talked of before you left here last fall, when to obviate the difficulty it was proposed to lay in a supply of subsistence and forage while the roads were good that would last us through the season of bad roads. But instead of getting ahead in supplies with roads in good condition we have failed to receive a full supply. We have supplied ourselves with a large amount of forage from this neighborhood, yet withal our men and horses have had to be brought down to two-thirds rations, and if we

have failed to receive a full supply when roads were good what are we to expect when they become bad and nothing more can be had here? We will then be compelled to fall back nearer the railroad. But then another difficulty will await us; we will not have transportation to enable us to move, for we could not move with our present transportation with the roads in good condition, much less when they become bad. I do not wish to be suggestive to my superiors, but knowing these things better perhaps than they are known at headquarters, I think it my duty to repeat them. With the experience of the past five months in connection with our trains and the prospect of bad roads at no distant day, I believe our stay here is at least very precarious. The capture of trains at the present time from the Creek here would leave us famishing before another could be sent to us, and the capture of another train is by no means an improbable event, and cannot well be prevented on our part, for the enemy can easily bring a larger force to attack it than we can keep in continual guard with it. Even General Meade, with fifty times our force, has lost trains when the distance to his base of supplies was but little over one-half what ours is. If it be impracticable to remain here during the season of bad roads, would it not be better to leave before it would become more difficult? And I might also ask, could we not guard the approaches to the railroad as well, if not better, if stationed at or near Burlington than we do here? Pardon me if too suggestive. Believing that these things are more patent to myself than to others I think it best to give them to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. THOBURN,
*Colonel.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., January* 18, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the general commanding department.

This paper has been written by Colonel Thoburn without any knowledge on his part of my own opinion in this matter, as expressed in a late conversation with the general commanding.

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

Refugees and deserters brought in from Page County confirm former reports. One who left last Wednesday says Stuart had not moved. The rebel conscription is carried on with great vigor.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

Scouting party returned from Russell's Tavern, southwest of Winchester 15 miles, report having overtaken scouting party of enemy

with a number of cattle. Enemy were scattered and cattle retaken. Early and Lee reported gone to Gordonsville. Imboden between Cross Keys and Port Republic.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*January* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 16th instant with the inclosures.* Without questioning its justice, I desire to say that the discipline of the Fifth Corps is probably as good as that of any other corps in this army, but that its temptations to commit breaches of the kind named are very great. When horses, fences, stock, &c., disappear in the vicinity of other corps it seems exceptional that the Fifth Corps should be stigmatized for lack of discipline. I have seen a car destroyed nearer Brandy than Rappahannock Station, and yet the robbers did not belong to my command. Aside from ordinary camp and picket duties, troops having 25 miles of railroad to watch, with the supplies for the whole army passing over it, have an amount of duty to perform not reached, it is believed, by any other corps in the Army of the Potomac.

That some irregularities should occur is not unlikely, and I exceedingly regret the loss of some little lumber, a dozen bales of hay, and a displaced car or so. Still, I do not wish to screen the Fifth Corps from any of its acts, and will use every exertion to correct the evils brought to my notice. Numerous statements have come to me that the railroad has never been better guarded than now.

The military superintendent of railroads states that most of these depredations occur east of Bull Run bridge. My jurisdiction extends only to that stream. I have sent to my division commanders copies of your inclosures, and the circular herein conveyed.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

CIRCULAR, No. 4. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*Camp near Rappahannock Station, January* 18, 1864.

1. It is with great mortification that the major-general commanding submits the inclosed communications to his division commanders. From them it will be seen that robbery is systematically carried out along the line of railroad. The negligence of guards whose specific duty is to prevent depredations and insure the safety of trains, property, &c., is painfully apparent. The Orange and Alexandria Railroad is the means of supply for the Army of the Potomac. The supplies passing over it keep that army alive. The safety of the road, its material, and what it transports should be to the troops assigned for its protection a sacred duty.

2. Each division commander will himself travel over, or cause a

*Inclosures not found; but see Devereux to Ingalls, p. 377.

competent staff officer to travel, the portion of the railroad in his charge at least once a week; ascertain, by personal inquiry, all irregularities that have occurred, either in the detention of trains, the loss of property, neglect of guards, or otherwise. Immediate steps will be taken by the division general to bring to trial all officers and men who have failed in their duty in any one particular. Complaints from conductors of trains and officers of the provost-marshal-general's department will be referred to them for settlement. Reports will be made to these headquarters the day succeeding this inspection, giving all the information necessary for the guidance of the corps commander.

3. The corps commander will hold the division commanders strictly responsible for all neglects taking place on that portion of the railroad within the limits of their command.

4. The commanding officers of the Eleventh U. S. Infantry and the Eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers will be held responsible that their officers and men perform their duty on the trains as soldiers. Sentinels on the cars and along the railroad will be instructed to fire upon and kill, if possible, any and all persons attempting to steal property from the trains.

5. Troops are placed along the railroad with the object of protecting that road and everything belonging to it; not only protecting it from the depredations of the enemy, but watching over its cars, tanks, materials of construction, bridges, culverts, iron, &c. All other considerations are secondary. The orders of the major-general commanding, of December 3, 1863, should have made this circular unnecessary.

6. The military superintendent of the railroad will be instructed to report promptly to these headquarters any neglects, depredations, or other irregularities that may take place on the road.

7. This circular will be read at the head of every regiment and detachment in the corps.

By command of Major-General Sykes:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT:

It is reported that the troops around Orange Court-House are moving toward the river and that the enemy's cavalry pickets are this side of the river. The major-general commanding directs that you will gain all the information you can of the enemy's movements and have your command in hand for any emergency, and forward all the information you can gain.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.*

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MITCHELL'S, *January* 18, 1864.

Captain BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

All quiet on the picket-line. The firing of the enemy at Somerville Ford has ceased. Signal lights seen about 10 p. m. across the

river. Enemy's camp-fires not wholly visible, as they extend over the hills out of sight. Nothing unusual observed except the signal lights. A sharp watch is kept by my pickets.

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 18, 1864.

General GREGG:

The patrols of the Third Division were attacked last night near Ellis' Ford. The general directs that you notify your pickets near Morrisville to be on the alert.

E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 18, 1864.

General CUSTER,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

It is reported that there are two regiments of rebel cavalry within our lines scattered about the country. The commanding general directs that your command must keep a good lookout, and that you must send stronger patrols hereafter.

E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to report all quiet along my lines at this hour. One of my patrols returning from Ellis' Ford last evening were attacked. A captain and 7 men were captured. Another patrol from Ely's Ford were also attacked and 1 man killed, 2 wounded, and 2 prisoners. The particulars will be forwarded this morning.

G. A. CUSTER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Cavalry Division.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 18, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 3.15 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

The following telegram received from General Sullivan. I send it to you for the information of the General-in-Chief:

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

Scout just in from Winchester. Gilmor lies to right of Strasburg. Imboden and White at Woodstock. About 300 men at Fisher's Hill. Early's headquarters at Harrisonburg. Rosser's brigade with him, except Seventh Virginia, which, with about 200 infantry, are at Mount Jackson. On Friday last 350 cavalry left for, they said, Moorefield.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Martinsburg, Va., January* 18, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: On the afternoon of the 15th instant I was informed by some citizens of this place that William Dooly, a loyal citizen of Winchester, while at church on the Sunday preceding, had been seized by certain persons supposed to belong to the rebel army, and after being maltreated and threatened, had been forcibly carried off. On the following day, 16th instant, I dispatched 50 men of the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, under command of Lieutenant Lewis, to Winchester with orders to demand of the town authorities of Winchester the return of Dooly to his family, and to inform them that they would be held personally responsible for his abduction. Lieutenant Lewis returned yesterday morning, and reports that he called on the acting mayor, who [*sic*], and also Mr. P. Williams, one of the town council and a very influential citizen. These gentlemen protested against being held responsible for an action which they disapproved but could not prevent, but promised to exert themselves to have Dooly returned. I report these facts for the information of the brigadier-general commanding.

Lieutenant Lewis reports that he found some 10 men of the enemy's cavalry in Winchester, but they escaped by a back street. It is believed that the men who seized Dooly belonged to Gilmor's command, and were under the immediate command of a Lieutenant Gilmor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 18, 1864—10 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

A telegram just received from General Sullivan advises me that 350 cavalry left Mount Jackson for Moorefield on Friday last. Be on the alert for them. Advise Thoburn at once.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., January* 18, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: Colonel Thoburn, commanding Second Brigade, reports that on the 15th instant a small squad of the Washington Cavalry had a skirmish with McNeill's company near the Moorefield Gap. The enemy were routed, losing 1 killed, 1 wounded, and 2 captured. We also captured 3 of their horses and full set of arms and accouterments. Our loss was nothing. The supply train for Petersburg arrived safely, though it was reported Gilmor's battalion was on the Patterson's Creek Mountains, only deterred from attacking by the strength of the guard.

I am, captain, faithfully,

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Your telegram received. I do not credit the report of a large force being encamped at Lost River. My information is that Gilmor's battalion is on Baker's Creek, west of Strasburg. The Seventh Virginia Cavalry at Mount Jackson, and Early at Harrisonburg. There is in the Shenandoah Valley a force of 8,000 or 10,000 men, undoubtedly, but will General Early detach from this force one-half of it and send into the South Branch Valley? Would it not be well to send what available cavalry you have to make a scout to Moorefield and neighborhood before we determine the question of the withdrawal of the troops?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 18, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

It is reported that about 350 cavalry are between Wardensville and Moorefield. If this is reliable they are undoubtedly lying in wait for Thoburn's trains. Order one of your battalions to be held in readiness to move at a moment's notice to cut them off if I find it is so.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

Your dispatch received. It would be impossible to cut off a party between Wardensville and Moorefield if it was on the alert, as it would be very difficult now to cross Lost River. They could get away toward Orkney Springs or Columbia Furnace or Devil's Hole, and the party going after them would be liable to be cut off. I scarcely credit the report, as forage is very scarce between Wardensville and Moorefield.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
*Nashville, Tenn., January* 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief of the Army, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I would respectfully suggest whether an abandonment of all previously attempted lines to Richmond is not advisable, and in lieu of these one be taken farther south. I would suggest Raleigh, N. C., as the objective point and Suffolk as the starting point. Raleigh once secured, I would make New Berne the base of supplies until Wilmington is secured.

A moving force of 60,000 men would probably be required to start on such an expedition. This force would not have to be increased unless Lee should withdraw from his present position. In that case the necessity for so large a force on the Potomac would not exist. A force moving from Suffolk would destroy first all the roads about Weldon, or even as far north as Hicksford. From Weldon to Raleigh they would scarcely meet with serious opposition. Once there, the most interior line of railway still left to the enemy, in fact the only one they would then have, would be so threatened as to force him to use a large portion of his army in guarding it. This would virtually force an evacuation of Virginia and indirectly of East Tennessee. It would throw our armies into new fields, where they could partially live upon the country and would reduce the stores of the enemy. It would cause thousands of the North Carolina troops to desert and return to their homes. It would give us possession of many negroes who are now indirectly aiding the rebellion. It would draw the enemy from campaigns of their own choosing, and for which they are prepared, to new lines of operations never expected to become necessary. It would effectually blockade Wilmington, the port now of more value to the enemy than all the balance of their sea-coast. It would enable operations to commence at once by removing the war to a more southern climate, instead of months of inactivity in winter quarters. Other advantages might be cited which would be likely to grow out of this plan, but these are enough. From your better opportunities of studying the country and the armies that would be involved in this plan, you will be better able to judge of the practicability of it than I possibly can. I have written this in accordance with what I understand to be an invitation from you to express my views about military operations, and not to insist that any plan of mine should be carried out. Whatever course is agreed upon, I shall always believe is at least intended for the best, and until fully tested will hope to have it prove so.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
*January* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: If the interests of the service will admit, I have the honor to request that Wheaton's brigade, Sixth Corps, now at Harper's Ferry, may be ordered to join its corps. I make this request principally to obviate a difficulty arising from some commanding officers of regiments promising their men furloughs at once instead of waiting the return of those now gone, in compliance with the commanding general's orders. If this brigade could be sent back, it would permit some 300 or 400 men who have re-enlisted and now waiting to take their furloughs immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 19, 1864.

Col. C. R. SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

COLONEL: I most respectfully call the attention of the major-general commanding Cavalry Corps to the situation of the regiment (Second Pennsylvania Cavalry) now camped near Bealeton. The order directing the recent movement of the Second Brigade of this division to its present position directed that it should picket toward Morrisville, so as to give warning of the approach of an enemy from that direction. The Second Pennsylvania Cavalry was placed in camp on the road leading from Bealeton to Morrisville, and about three-fourths of a mile from the former place. The infantry which had been camped in the vicinity had been removed, but it was thought only temporarily, as a battery remained. The officer commanding the Second Pennsylvania Cavalry reports the battery withdrawn to the north side of the railroad, and that no troops are on the south side of the railroad in his vicinity. Thus situated, the duties of the regiment are severe, having to perform the required picket duty, to maintain unusually strong guards for the protection of his own camp (which has been fired into at night), and to have a considerable portion of his horses constantly saddled, because of no support being near, and because the regiment from its position is made responsible for the safety of the railroad at Bealeton. Owing to the reported presence of two regiments of cavalry at Stafford and in that vicinity, the regiment at Bealeton is always liable to attack from a superior force; if such should be made, no support being near at hand, much injury might be inflicted by the enemy. The duty at Bealeton being more than is required here of a regiment, I would suggest that the regiment there should be changed every three days. This is objectionable, because it would involve a regiment marching 10 miles over bad roads to reach the line to be picketed, and much inconvenience would result from leaving material in camp here. If a cavalry force is required at Bealeton simply to picket and give notice to the troops guarding the railroad of the approach of a force of the enemy, I would consider 100 men sufficient for such duty, and these might be changed every three days. If an entire regiment of cavalry is required, I would ask that a supporting force be so placed with reference to the camp of this regiment on the south side of the railroad that it may not have more responsibility and more duty to perform than was intended or should be expected of a regiment whose first object at this season should be the care of its horses.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MCM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General, Comdg. Second Cavalry Division.*

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NORFOLK, VA., *January* 19, 1864—3 p. m.
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER
(*Care Secretary of War*):

There is a rumor by flag of truce arrived to-day that rebels are evacuating Richmond. I am ready for any orders you may send.

WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
*January* 20, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE, or
Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Two deserters, who left Lee's army at different times in the early part of the month, report the number of rations daily issued at 45,000, and number of effective men at 38,000, exclusive of 11,000 in the Shenandoah Valley under Early, Fitz. Lee, Rosser, and Imboden. There can be very little doubt that one division of Ewell's corps and nearly all of Sam. Jones' force are with Longstreet. General B. F. Butler reports that a considerable force has passed through Richmond within a week, a part taking the North Carolina railroad and a part the Lynchburg road.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 20, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 9.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

Your dispatch of this date in relation to the strength of Lee's army received. Three deserters from Anderson's division came in this morning, and report that there has been no movement of troops in Lee's army since about December 27, when a portion of Anderson's division marched toward Goldsborough, under Early. A party of fugitive negroes came in to-day from the enemy's lines, and also report no recent movement of troops.

JNO. SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *January* 20, 1864—1 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

New camps discovered on the north side of Clark's Mountain; also small one south-southeast from here and near Orange Court-House. No other changes observed.

PAINE.

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 20, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
*Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send a party of 75 men to Auburn and in that vicinity, where it is reported there are parties of guerrillas. All the houses in the vicinity will be carefully searched, particularly Mr. Murray's. The party should leave your camp about 5 o'clock to-morrow morning, and be commanded by an officer who will perform this duty in a proper manner. You will instruct the officer sent in command to compel the search to be made without injury to persons or property. Let the country be well scouted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. ARROWSMITH,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 20, 1864.
(Received 4.15 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER
(*Care Secretary of War*):

Telegram received. A small cavalry force, under discreet officers, instructed not to ask direct questions, but to exhibit anxiety for capture of horses and negroes, went out last night. They were directed, after passing New Kent, to incline toward the White House, if they decided to go farther at all, my care being identical with that expressed in your telegram.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *January* 21, 1864.

CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

The artillery camp at Rapidan railroad bridge has moved, taking the two guns at the bridge and the two guns farther up the river. No change otherwise.

WIGGINS and CAMP.

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*Camp near Rappahannock Station, Va., January* 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: My headquarters are besieged by citizens representing themselves as without the means of support. The number increases from day to day. The district of country north of the Rappahannock from Hartwood Church to Fayetteville is a desert, and the inhabitants come to me for bread. I have made issues of a few days at a time in conformity with existing orders, but the labor is becoming so onerous that I cannot continue it. I cannot picket the country from Bull Run to the Rappahannock on both sides of the railroad, therefore these people (women and children) get within the limits of my command. Either the people must starve, if kept out of the camp, or one of the Treasury agents must be sent to register the inhabitants and take measures to feed them.

Common humanity requires that they should be fed, especially as they have lost all they possessed, by the Federal Army. I wish to know distinctly whether it is the intention of the major-general commanding this army to have these citizens kept out under any and all circumstances. Being outside, of course they cannot obtain passes to come inside the pickets, and therefore the "proper authority" mentioned in your letter of the 13th instant has no existence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding Fifth Corps.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
*January* 23, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

General Orders, No. 11, of February 11, 1863, is the only guide for the issue or sale of subsistence stores to citizens.* From an indorsement of Major-General Meade's, some six or seven weeks ago, I learned that application had been made to the War Department for some modification of the order, but on a recent visit to the War Department I learned unofficially that there was little probability of any change in this order. The trade agents of the Treasury Department are only authorized to furnish limited supplies to parties who can make payment therefor, on orders approved at this office. No provision whatever is made by the Treasury for any others, and from a recent interview with Mr. Secretary Chase and other gentlemen in office I am led to believe that no action will be had in the premises officially.

M. R. PATRICK,
*Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Potomac.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 27, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the commanding officer of the Fifth Corps.

The following are the rules that must govern in the sale or issue of subsistence to the citizens of this country:

First. All persons who have the means to purchase stores must send their orders for the same to the provost-marshal-general of this army, or to the trade agent of the Treasury Department in Washington.

Second. In the cases of destitute citizens living within the region of country occupied by the Fifth Corps, paragraph 4 of General Orders, No. 11, of 1863, from these headquarters, will be taken as the guide, except that the issues may be made on returns approved by the corps commander. The parties must take the oath of allegiance in all cases.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division, Warrenton:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to say that he starts on a twenty-day leave to-morrow morning, and directs that you assume command of the Cavalry Corps during his absence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. ROSS SMITH.
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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*See Vol. XXV, Part II, p. 66.

ALEXANDRIA, *January* 21, 1864.

Colonel TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: My men have scouted as usual. They report a rumor that White's cavalry was advancing on the pickets at Vienna. The report could not be traced to any reliable source. Last night a small party of guerrillas carried off a number of horses from the vicinity of Accotink. They were pursued by the home guards, but succeeded in escaping.

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., January* 21, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Div., Dept. of West Virginia:*

In obedience to orders, I sent a party to Winchester for the purpose of arresting the acting mayor and one of the most prominent citizens of that place, to be held as hostages for Mr. Dooly. The officer in command of the party reports that Dr. Fuller, the acting mayor, could not be found. Mr. Robert Conrad, the person selected as the other hostage, represented his state of health and inability to ride on horseback as an excuse for not immediately complying with the order, and sent a written parole holding himself bound to answer the call of the U. S. authorities whenever made. To-day Mr. Ginn, a Union man of high standing, from Winchester, brought me the accompanying letters* from Winchester, and represents that to bring these men to this place would probably render it unsafe for the Union citizens of Winchester to remain there, but thinks that if permitted to remain at home on parole they will succeed in returning Dooly. He says they are already very much alarmed and excited by the occurrence.

Nevertheless, I shall of course obey your original order and send a party to make the arrest, unless I receive some discretionary order to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., January* 21, 1864.

Dr. W. M. FULLER,
*Acting Mayor of Winchester:*

SIR: William Dooly, the citizen arrested by the party of soldiers from General Early's command, was not in any way employed by the U. S. authorities, nor can I discover that he has ever been. The arrest of a private citizen for holding loyal sentiments to the Government of the United States will certainly be punished by retaliation, and so far as I am authorized I shall feel it my duty to select the most worthy and influential citizens whose sentiments may be sup-

* Not found.

posed to give countenance to those marauders. I have communicated with my military superior on the subject, and of course shall be governed by his further orders. In the mean time I hope and expect that you will use every effort to have Dooly returned and prevent the inauguration of a system which will certainly lead to great suffering.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 4TH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Beverly, W. Va., January* 21, 1864.

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to apply to you for instructions how I shall act with refugees who are coming into our lines to escape the draft. They report that every person capable to bear arms from sixteen to sixty years of age will be conscripted into the service, and in consequence thereof refugees are coming in daily; they have nothing to eat and seek work. They also state that a great many more are preparing to enter our lines. Some 30 or 40 are reported to be on the road hither from Rockingham and Augusta Counties, and are expected to be here about middle of next week. Please inform me what I shall do with them as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. MOOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded for the action of the general commanding Department of West Virginia.

JNO. H. OLEY,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*January* 21, 1864.

Colonel DUTTON,
*Commanding, Newport News:*

Order Twenty-fifth Massachusetts and One hundred and eighteenth New York to march to Clark's farm, 2 miles below Yorktown, on the main road (either in one or two marches, distance 24 miles), and camp and report to Yorktown for instructions.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS TENTH U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
*Drummondtown, Va., January* 21, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*A. A. G., Hdqrs. 18th Army Corps, Dept. Va. and N. C.:*

SIR: In accordance with orders received from headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, dated January 12, 1864, I have the honor to

report that I broke camp at Craney Island on the 17th instant and proceeded to Drummondtown, Va., and relieved the First Maryland [Eastern Shore] Infantry there on duty. I have furthermore sent detachments of men properly officered to relieve portions of the aforesaid regiment stationed at Cherrystone and Chincoteague Island.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. H. POWELL,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Tenth U. S. Colored Troops.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 22, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

One of my patrols, numbering about 30 men, was attacked this a. m., by about 50 rebels. One man killed and 2 wounded. Particulars will be sent as soon as obtained.

G. A. CUSTER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., CAVALRY CORPS.
*January* 23, 1864.

Capt. L. G. ESTES,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: In compliance with instructions just received from the brigadier-general commanding division, I have the honor to submit the following report:

Lieutenant Munson, Fifth New York Cavalry, with 30 men of same regiment, left the reserve near Southard's Cross-Roads at 2.30 p. m. yesterday, to patrol to Ellis' Ford. When within short distance of the ford and in dense pine woods they were suddenly fired upon from rear and both sides of the road by from 60 to 70 dismounted men, most of them wearing the United States blue overcoats. Wheeling about, Lieutenant Munson with his men charged, repulsing the enemy instantly and putting him to flight through the woods. Several of the rebels were wounded. We had 1 man killed and 4 wounded, besides 3 horses killed.

Further pursuit was impossible on account of the thickness of the woods.

Very respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 23, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

All quiet along my lines this morning. My patrol attacked yesterday succeeded in repulsing the enemy. Our loss, 1 killed and 4 wounded.

G. A. CUSTER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 23, 1864.
(Received 3.35 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

The following telegram just received and forwarded for the information of the General-in-Chief:

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Cumberland, Md.:*

My scout this morning to Strasburg numbers 745 men. Ninety-seven deserters have reported at this post since 1st January. The President's amnesty is having good effect. I am scattering it all through the country.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
*Petersburg, W. Va., January* 23, 1864.

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., Dept. of West Va.:*

LIEUTENANT: Twenty-five refugees and deserters arrived this evening from Augusta and Rockingham Counties. They confirm previous reports concerning the whereabouts of the enemy, and all agree that Fitzhugh Lee with two brigades has gone to Charlottesville and gone into winter quarters. Rosser's brigade is at Timberville. One young man says that Imboden is encamped on his (the young man's) father's farm, within 1 mile of Mount Crawford, with one company picketing Brock's Gap. General Early is at Taylor's Springs, within 3 miles of Harrisonburg. They all say that the late rebel conscription act will drive forty-nine out of fifty of those conscripted out of the country. An immense tide of emigration northward will set in as soon as winter is over.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. THOBURN,
*Colonel.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., January* 24, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the general commanding department.

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE CAVALRY,
*Charleston, W. Va., January* 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. P. SCAMMON,
*Comdg. Third Division, Department of West Virginia:*

GENERAL: It is my painful duty, after four months of hard labor, to place my command in a state of complete efficiency for field duty, to make you the following statement:

My brigade is composed, as you know, as follows: Thirty-fourth

Regiment Mounted Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Second Regiment Virginia Cavalry Volunteers, four companies Third Virginia Cavalry, two companies First Virginia Cavalry, and Simmonds' battery. Three companies of the Third Virginia Cavalry are detached from this command; also two companies of the First Virginia Cavalry and one of the Second Virginia Cavalry, which companies, when my command moves, remain at the different places where they are detached. The consequences are that my command is somewhat weak; more than this, those companies are never drilled, and discipline is unknown to them. This is the consequence of all detachments far away from their commands. In assuming command in the valley it was understood that I was to have four regiments of cavalry, which regiments I have been expecting for months, but never received, and for which I have applied many times without any success. Three companies, however, were sent to me, but in what shape? They were in so poor condition that I was unable to use them for fear of disgrace. Now those companies have been drilled and disciplined by me in person, and are now able to make good service. The numerous detachments and parties that I am obliged to furnish every day oblige me to beg for some more cavalry for next spring. The circumstances which oblige me to apply for more cavalry are the following:

First, being weak, as mentioned above; second, to have constantly on hand a cavalry well drilled and well disciplined, without being obliged to rely on the different detachments to join me or the different parties sent out in case of attack, which case the concentration will be too long, and in case also that my enemy being enterprising I would have to share a disaster, which sometimes brings shame on the commanding officer; third, the part of the country which I occupy with my command requires a great vigilance from the cavalry service, the enemy being able to make at any time some raids, which raids, if I want to capture the enemy, requires me to send on all the roads my cavalry to intercept the marauders; fourth, to protect the property of loyal citizens against guerrilla parties, which are frequent, and which parties generally succeed for the want of cavalry in this department.

Hoping that this statement shall be taken in full consideration, I hope that the proper authorities will see that I be provided with some more cavalry for next spring.

My artillery is well supplied with horses, but the caissons and carriages, having been in the service for nearly three years, are completely worn out. Inspection reports have been sent in for nearly one month, and no reply to them, for what is to be done. As it is very important that my artillery be placed for action without delay, I beg that the proper course be taken at once.

Requisitions and communications are generally promptly done in my command, but I must confess that the neglect lies somewhere; for instance, some communications have been sent by me since two months, and yet no answer received. Requisitions have been sent in for months, and it seems to me that it is impossible to get them filled up. Requisitions have been sent by the Second Virginia Cavalry for ammunition near two months since, and this regiment today is unfit for duty, having not a single cartridge since its return from Lewisburg. This ought to be corrected at once; only think of the consequences.

The transportation is very poor. This command is provided with, generally, old wagons, which have been used since the spring of the

actual war, and no new ones can be supplied to us; why, I do not know. The two expeditions made against Lewisburg have shown plainly how worthless the means of transportation are. Old wagons ought not to be repaired when they are too old; from these come the deficiency of our transportation.

General, I want you to understand that I do not blame any one, but it is my duty as a soldier and as a general officer to make such a statement, which statement I hope will be taken in consideration.

I am, general, respectfully, yours,

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*General, Commanding Cavalry.*

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HDQRS. MIDDLE DEPARTMENT, EIGHTH ARMY CORPS,
*Baltimore, Md., January 23, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 19th instant, requesting a report in round numbers of the strength and present position of the troops in this department, with what forces can be spared to send on an expedition out of the department, and in reply to inclose in tabular form a report of the exact condition of this command.* The Ninth and Tenth Regiments Maryland Volunteer Infantry, First Battalion Delaware Volunteer Cavalry, and the Baltimore Battery Light Artillery, and Battery H, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, can be spared from this command; but the Ninth and Tenth Maryland Volunteers would be of no service on an expedition out of this department, as their term of service expires, respectively, February 13 and January 29, 1864.

The Third Regiment Delaware Volunteer Infantry and the Third Regiment Potomac Home Brigade, Maryland Volunteer Infantry, are guarding the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, main stem and Washington Branch, from Annapolis Junction to the Monocacy, the western limit of this department, and can only be taken from the line of the road at the risk of leaving it without guards.

The Purnell Legion, Maryland Volunteer Infantry, is scattered in companies along the Lower Potomac, and through the disaffected counties of the Western Shore, to restrict blockade-running and catch deserters from the Army of the Potomac. From my thorough acquaintance with that section of the country, I am convinced that the presence of this regiment cannot be dispensed with.

The defenses of Baltimore—Forts McHenry, Federal Hill, Marshall, and No. 1, at the head of West Baltimore street, and Fort Dix, at the Relay House—are garrisoned by the Second Separate Brigade.

The Fifth and Eighth New York Heavy Artillery cannot be spared from this command, as they are the only regiments I have drilled at heavy guns, and the other regiment of this brigade, the Tenth Maryland Volunteer Infantry, will be mustered out of service on the 29th instant. The Fifth and Eighth are receiving recruits from New York quite rapidly, and will require the winter months to drill and discipline them for active service.

I respectfully invite your attention to the inclosed tabular report,

* Inclosure not found.

showing the exact duty which each regiment and detachment of this command is performing, with the information that the exigencies of the public service forbid my recommending their removal or transfer.

I beg in conclusion to state that the delay in sending this report has occasioned me much mortification, but was unavoidable, owing to the regiments within this command having lately received recruits from their respective States not heretofore reported to these headquarters, and I was desirous of sending as correct and full a report of the condition of the command as could be made.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY H. LOCKWOOD,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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FORT MONROE, *January* 23, 1864.
(Received 3.35 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

A table servant of Jeff. Davis has come within our lines. I have examined him and think him truthful and reliable, and his information of sufficient consequence to send him to you. He reports, and I believe him, the rebel Vice-President having fled to Europe without the knowledge of Davis. The boy's name is James Pemberton. I send by mail minutes of a hurried examination.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 24, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 3.30 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The only information collected at these headquarters as yet respecting the movements of troops from Lee's army is the following: Corse's brigade, Pickett's division, is now near Longstreet and undoubtedly under his command. Barton's and Hunton's brigades, of Pickett's division, formerly Armistead's and Garnett's brigades, passed through Petersburg on the 14th instant on their way to North Carolina, to guard against a movement from General Butler, it was said.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *January* 24, 1864—12 m.

Captain DAVIS,
*Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

A large column of smoke seen between 9 and 11 this a. m. at northern base of Fox Mountain. Could discover no troops in that vicinity

PAINE.

PONY MOUNTAIN, *January* 24, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

Good view to-day. Camp reported on Clark's Mountain consists of not more than two regiments of infantry. No change in position of troops along the river.

PAINE.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 24, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON:

The major-general commanding directs that the left of the picket-line of your corps be thrown forward, connecting with the right of the Third Corps near the Church Cross-Roads, and that in this movement you act in concert with General French. The order to advance his line has been telegraphed to General French.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 24, 1864.

Major-General FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that the picket-line of your corps be advanced south of Pony Mountain, the right of your line connecting with the left of the picket-line of the First Corps near the Church Cross-Roads, and that in this movement you act in concert with General Newton. General Newton has been telegraphed to.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff to Comdg. General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS,
*January* 24, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Leonard, corps officer of the day, who will comply with the within orders.

By command of Major-General French:

JNO. M. NORVELL,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY CORPS,
*January* 24, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON:

Have received dispatch from headquarters Army of the Potomac ordering me to advance my picket-line south of Pony Mountain, the movement to be made in conjunction with you. I propose to move to-morrow morning; will that suit you? Please answer.

FRENCH,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. FIRST ARMY CORPS, *Culpeper, January* 24, 1864.

Major-General FRENCH, *Third Army Corps:*

I have been directed to throw forward my pickets, in connection with your right, near the Church Cross-Roads. If it is not important that it be done at once, I propose that it be delayed until to-morrow morning, when your general officer of the day and mine meet on the right of your line, say at 12 m., and carry the order into effect. Please answer.

JNO. NEWTON,
*Major-General.*

---

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *January* 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The following dispatch just received from signal officer.* I have telegraphed to General Merritt and inquired if he has had any report from that vicinity to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *January* 24, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General MERRITT:

The signal officer on Pony Mountain has just reported that a large column of smoke was seen at the north base of Fox Mountain between 9 and 11 o'clock this morning; he could discover no troops in that vicinity. Have you any report from that vicinity to-day?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, ENGINEER DEPT.,
*January* 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

SIR: Lieutenant Mackenzie, Corps of Engineers, has been directed to examine the enemy's works on this side of the Rapidan. If it does not storm, he will be at Mitchell's Station to-morrow. Will you please direct the officer in command of the cavalry in that vicinity to furnish him with a suitable escort?

Very respectfully,

J. C. DUANE,
*Major of Engineers.*

---

CULPEPER, *January* 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Your dispatch with reference to detail for engineer officer was received and the necessary orders given. A smoke reported, through army headquarters, by the signal officer proved to be, as a reconnaissance sent out by me found, at the foot of Thoroughfare Mountain.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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*See Paine to Davis, 12 m., p. 406.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 14. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., January* 24, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. It appearing that numbers of persons, refugees from States in rebellion, arrive daily at the stations of New Creek and Petersburg, W. Va., in a miserably destitute and suffering condition, and that issues of subsistence stores to such persons are absolutely necessary, and as from the nature of the case it is impossible to provide in orders from these headquarters how many rations shall be issued per day, it is directed, in pursuance of authority from the honorable Secretary of War, under date of April 22, 1863, that Col. James A. Mulligan, commanding Second Division, cause such issue to be made to all destitute persons so arriving as will afford them the necessary relief, the issue to exceed in no case one ration per day to each person so arriving, and to continue during such time as it may be necessary for them to remain at the aforesaid stations.

By order of Brig. Gen. B. F. Kelley:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., January* 24, 1864.

Capt. W. M. BOONE,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Div., Dept. of West Virginia:*

On the 22d instant I dispatched Captain Shawhan, One hundred and twenty-third Ohio Volunteers, with a party of cavalry and infantry, to Winchester, for the purpose of bringing back a small quantity of wool, the property of Mr. A. H. Griffith, the circumstances attending which have already been reported. Captain Shawhan was also instructed to arrest and bring to these headquarters two of the most prominent citizens of Winchester, in retaliation for the abduction of William Dooly by persons apparently acting by the authority of the rebel Government. Captain Shawhan returned with the wool and the Rev. A. H. H. Boyd; most of the other citizens of any prominence were either unfortunately absent from [home] or in such a delicate state of health that they were permitted to remain. Dr. Boyd is fortunately in good health, and his arrest has caused apparently some anxiety for the fate of William Dooly. I understand he is a gentleman of great influence and respectability, and has exerted himself in several instances in behalf of Union men in trouble, particularly in the case of Mr. G. W. Ginn and Mr. Frank Meredith and others. I therefore forward the inclosed application* for the consideration of the brigadier-general commanding.

Dr. Boyd is here in arrest, but at the request of Union men he is on parole in his quarters at a private house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January 25, 1864.*

Major General NEWTON,
*Commanding First Corps:*

The major-general commanding desires to know whether in your opinion it is not desirable to withdraw the brigade at Cedar Mountain to the near vicinity of the brigade at Mitchell's Station or to the nearest point to that station, where suitable camp grounds can be found, and, if so, where such grounds can be found.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY CORPS,
*January 25, 1864.*

Major-General NEWTON:

General Mott, corps officer of the day, was directed to change the line to-day. A staff officer will be sent out to direct the movement of the picket-line at 12 m. to-morrow.

W. H. FRENCH,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
*January 25, 1864.*

Major-General FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

My general officer of the day has waited on the picket-line at the point designated until 4 p. m. without your officer making his appearance. I propose the line move at 12 o'clock to-morrow punctually. Please inform me if your line will move at the same time.

JNO. NEWTON,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
*January 25, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: In obedience to existing orders, I have the honor to submit the following field report of this command:

| Command. | Present. | | Absent. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. |
| First Division | 180 | 4,088 | 170 | 2,248 |
| Second Division[a] | 238 | 5,268 | 202 | 2,959 |
| Third Division[b] | ..... | ..... | 313 | 5,374 |
| Artillery Brigade | 24 | 852 | 14 | 201 |
| | 442 | 10,208 | 699 | 10,782 |

[a] Second Brigade, Third Division, attached.
[b] First and Third Brigades, Third Division, detached.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

CULPEPER, *January* 25, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

A deserter from the enemy assigned to Mosby has come in, and he reports that the enemy's mounted cavalry is down toward Fredericksburg, their dismounted men doing picket duty in our front. Mosby is said to be at Markham, on Manassas Gap Railroad, with five companies of cavalry.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
*Washington, D. C., January* 25. 1864.

General J. G. TOTTEN, *Chief Engineer:*

SIR: I have the honor to forward the reports (delayed at first by the necessity of sending to the front, and since by other duties) in reply to the request of the Department of the 8th ultimo, desiring information as to the modifications that could advantageously be made in the fitting out of pontoon trains.

I now inclose the reports of three of my most experienced officers, each of which I can commend to the careful consideration of Mr. Trowbridge, while I have added to each special marginal notes of my own where they seemed to be advisable, the most important of which I may here recapitulate, with other opinions as to the substitute for general service of canvas-covered frame boats for the modified French pontoon now in use.

Generally, then, as to the modification of the bridge portion proper of the material, I feel I can safely recommend that the trestle so universally reported against shall be dispensed with hereafter, though I would retain the "saddle" timbers for the trains. I would dispense with the present claw-balks, using instead the ordinary balk, which in all cases should be cut one-half inch deep by one inch wide in two places, on opposite sides, at the proper distances near each end to receive the ropes that lash them together.

The claw pieces proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding are often very convenient, but can generally be added by the troops using them, though in dispensing with the present claw-balks an equal number of common balks might have these claw pieces securely placed on them at the manufactory.

The chess in all cases should be riveted near each end and shoulder. The lashings, anchors and attachments of anchors, instruments, &c., should be as approved in the marginal notes, and a change not alluded to by these officers should be made in the chains attaching the boat to the hind wheels. The lower link of this chain should be a flat bar, say of ½-inch by 2-inch iron 1 foot long, so that no common chain link could hang below the top of the tire to catch and break the spokes.

The change in harness as suggested by Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding, is important, doubtless, and whiffletrees in front of the wheel animals should, as far as possible, be dispensed with, and though not needed, as a reply to Mr. Trowbridge's letter I would say that nothing whatever can insure promptness and efficiency for pontoon trains till trained animals and drivers are kept expressly for them, while, for efficiency, with every bridge train on a march there should be a company of pontoniers mounted. One company so provided with

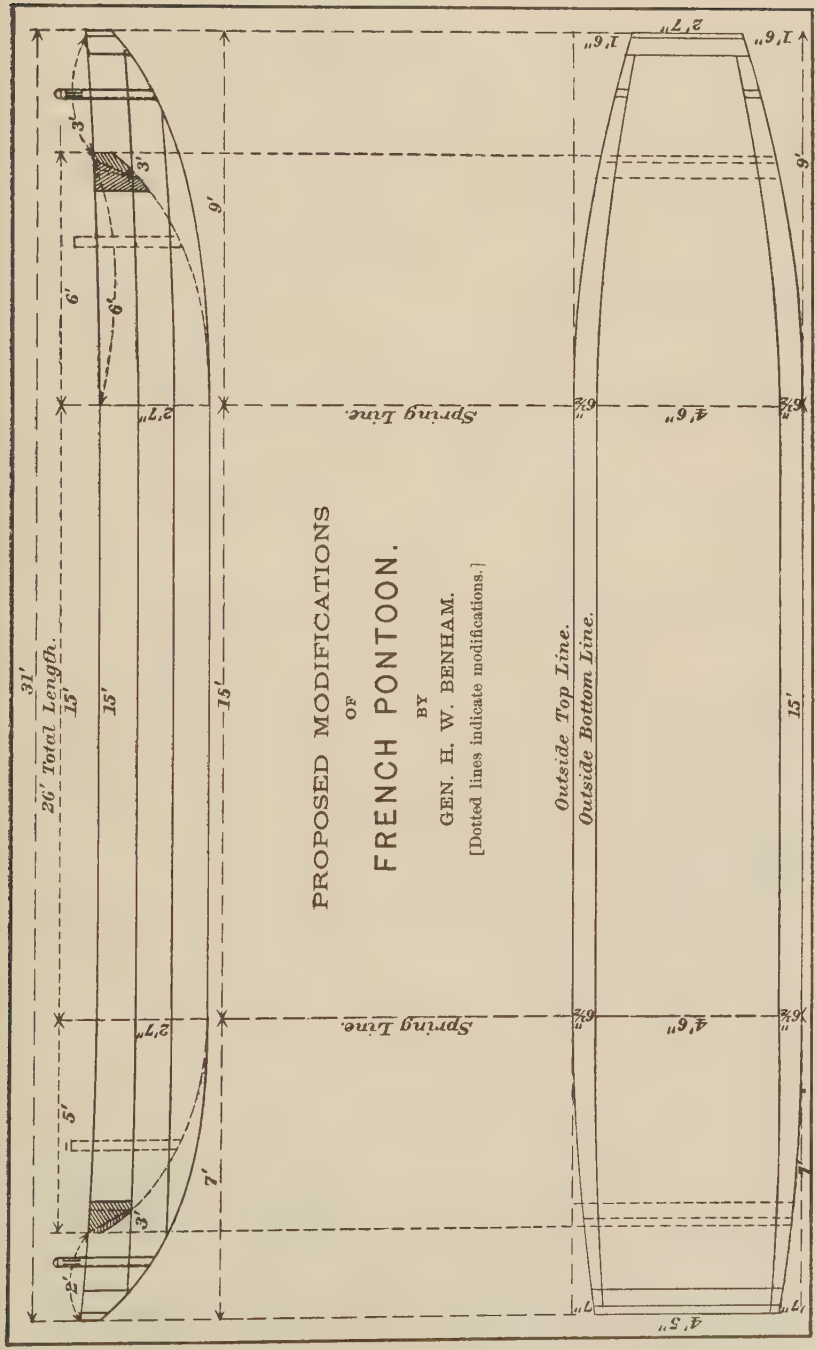
horses and the proper arms, say the short 2-foot barrel rifle and Sharps sword bayonet, will be worth more than any regiment of infantry to aid parts of a train in difficulties or to repel attacks. Of this my experience with trains leaves me not the slightest doubt.

As to Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding's proposition for three or four canvas boats for each train, to carry over troops to drive off opposing forces, although referred to in my marginal notes, I would here say more distinctly, I do not think this expedient, for if opposition is to be expected the troops should be thrown over in large masses, strong enough to bear down all probable opposition, and not by driblets of three or four canvas boat loads at a time.

It was by thus transporting troops in masses that, heavy as the wooden pontoons are, I had the bridges laid on the 29th of April last at the Franklin Crossing, below Fredericksburg, in the face of a fire from rifle-pits, without the loss of a single life; and this was done by carrying the wooden boats about 1½ miles by hand, to avoid the alarm sound of the pontoons, very peculiar on bad roads, and much like that of artillery. Captain Reese, of the Engineer Corps, reported to me that on trial he found that 36 men could carry one pontoon, and as he felt certain "with one rest, even to the river" (the 1½ miles stated). I had double this number of volunteers detailed, and at the principal point where I remained this method was a complete success. At the lower position, where I went only to start the pontoon, as I did dismounted, my orders were countermanded after I left and the boats reloaded, the result of which was a full preparation to meet us by the enemy, and a repulse, with a delay of several hours, and a final laying of bridge only with a severe loss in killed and wounded. This leads me to think that where the bridge cannot be laid by method of the simultaneous lays, and swinging the long raft with the 20 men concealed in each pontoon, the whole of the boats should be first employed for the passage of the attacking forces. On another point still a great advantage can be gained in the construction of these wooden pontoons by reducing their length by cutting them off at the bow and stern, leaving the pontoon pretty much of the present shape, though the ends might be slightly changed in shape if deemed expedient.

The modification I propose (of which I inclose sketch*) in the French pontoon is to take off 3 feet in length from the bow and 2 feet from the stern, while the "floor" remains of the same length, the ends to the depth of one plank downward to be of a thick plank or timber, with a shield or bunter which should slope about 3 inches outward. The bottom planks should then be bent up to the lower edge of this upper plank, if they will admit of such a curvature; if not, another plank across the end between the "middle streaks" can be substituted about over the "chord" of the bent part, and the bottom plank only bent in that case as far upward as the upper edge of the lower side plank. This will prevent, or avoid to a very great extent, the most fruitful source of injuries to the pontoons during land carriage—the great overhanging weight at the bow and stern, and though it appears to take from it some buoyant power, the position of that power is such that it is scarcely ever used, or necessary; and while it still leaves nearly all of the buoyant power that is generally used or required, it reduces the length of the boat 5 feet, of very great advantage in transportation and

*See p. 413.


PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS
OF
FRENCH PONTOON.
BY
GEN. H. W. BENHAM.
[Dotted lines indicate modifications.]
Spring Line.
Spring Line.
Outside Top Line.
Outside Bottom Line.
26' Total Length.
31'
15'
15'
15'
15'
9'
9'
6'
6'
3'
3'
3'
2'
2'
5'
7'
2'7"
2'7"
1'6"
1'6"
6½"
6½"
4'6"
4'6"
7"
7"
4'5"

for concealment on marches, which is often very important. But still further, it makes it far easier to obtain the proper planking in single lengths, the only way in which these boats should ever be constructed to secure the proper strength and tightness. Of the great advantage of this reduction in length of the wooden pontoons I have not the slightest doubt ; but the main question is, are these wooden pontoons the best and most expedient for use with an army where much land transportation is required ? I have no hesitation in expressing my belief that they are not the best, and I doubt not that, except where they may be needed for permanent bridges, or where they can have water transportation the greater part of the distance, the iron pontoon of somewhat near the form proposed by Mr. Francis, when strengthened in some parts and with some slight modification, will be altogether the best under all circumstances for field service. But of those now in use with us I give the preference altogether for field transportation to the canvas pontoon-boat, and of the present length, 22 feet, which appears to be sufficient.

On the march to Chancellorsville in April last three corps with their artillery passed most successfully over such a bridge, a couple of buckets only being ample for the bailing of all the boats. The pontoon itself, complete, weighs less than 700 pounds, being from two-fifths to less than two-sevenths of the wooden pontoon, and is such that while the bridge part proper remains the same, the total number of animals need not be more than two-thirds of those required for the ordinary trains ; while there are no large, heavy, and unwieldly loads, as is the case with the wooden pontoons—about two-thirds of such trains. This secures greater rapidity and facility of movement. While the first cost of the canvas pontoon is less, and taking into account the repairs of wooden pontoons so constantly necessary, especially in hot climates and always after marches, I feel safe in saying it is cheaper and more durable in the long run. I am so convinced of this that I have no hesitation in recommending for future use the canvas pontoon trains for the general service of our armies, the wooden boats being retained, or constructed only for special cases where they are manifestly indispensable and will not require much land transportation.

On one subject further with reference to these pontoon trains it may be proper to express my opinion, which is most decided, that either at this point or at some other position, if there be one as suitable, which I do not think to be the case, however, all things considered, there should be a depot for recruits for the drill of pontoniers for all the armies. Such selected depot or station for drill is more important, as I do not hesitate to say, for this than for any other arm of the service, for, as it is obvious, the tactical drills of artillery, infantry, and cavalry, and even the practice of engineers in the construction of field-works, gabions, fascines, can be carried on almost anywhere, even in the very front of the enemy ; but this is not the case with pontoon drills, which must be at the rear, in some selected position, away from the front or rivers (usually the dividing lines), near which the trained pontoniers should be with their equipage. I have had a full experience in relation to this point in my efforts for the drill of parts of my command at Belle Plain and elsewhere last season. After much of labor to the troops by the constant transfer of small portions of the command to those points for pontoon drill, the results were far from satisfactory, while within the first few weeks after my command reached this position the progress

was even astonishing. The bridges here, of a length of 1,300 feet, were soon laid complete in 20 to 25 minutes by the men of some previous experience, though soon after when the raw recruits were added to the command and joined in the drill I found the time protracted to an hour or more, even by the same method of laying the bridges.

At this post, after its occupation for more than two years past as the depot for repairs and drills, I am now erecting barracks for 900 men (or about one-fourth of the organization of my two regiments), about the number that might ordinarily be found, except in the active season, requiring instructions in pontoniering, for which this position is admirably adapted in every respect. And I would respectfully suggest for your consideration the propriety of this position being made the depot of instruction of pontoniers for all the armies.

I may add in justice to myself that I do not make this suggestion with the desire of continuing here as the commandant of this depot, for though ready to obey any order given me or do any duty I shall never desire to have any position, whatever its rank, emolument, or power, while the command of a fighting corps at the front could be obtained.

Very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]*

HDQRS. DETACHMENT 50TH NEW YORK VOL. ENGINEERS,
*Rappahannock Station, Va., December* 12, 1863.

Maj. J. C. DUANE,
*Chief Engineer, Army of the Potomac:*

MAJOR: I have now in the field a bridge train of forty pontoons (French bateaux), and perhaps I can best comply with your request that "I should give my views upon the matters contained in Mr. Trowbridge's letter to General Totten" by giving in tabular form a detailed statement of the organization of this train.

At present this train is divided into four sections, or four independent trains of ten boats each, each complete of itself, and a fifth train containing intrenching tools, quartermaster's and commissary stores, &c., and a small amount of surplus and reserve bridge material. The following is the arrangement of these trains:

| Kind of loads. | Wagons. No. | Wagons. Kind. | 8-mule teams. | 6-mule teams. | 4-horse teams. | Animals. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Train No 1.* | | | | | | |
| Boat, long balks, anchor, cable, oars, &c | 10 | Pontoon. | 12 | ..... | ..... | 96 |
| Abutment sills, claw-balks, rammers, &c | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Long balks (16), 1 anchor, 1 cable | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Chess (60 each) | 4 | Chess ... | | | | |
| Quartermaster's baggage and stores | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Officers' and company baggage, rations, company tool-chest. | 1 | Army... | ..... | 15 | ..... | 90 |
| Teamsters' baggage, rations, and picket-ropes | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Forage | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Traveling forge | 1 | Forge... | | | | |
| Total in train No. 1 | 21 | ..... | 12 | 15 | ..... | 186 |

* The foot-notes to inclosures Nos. 1, 2, and 3 are entered in the margin of the originals by General Benham.

| Kind of loads. | Wagons. No. | Wagons. Kind. | 8-mule teams. | 6-mule teams. | 4-horse teams. | Animals. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Train No. 2.* | | | | | | |
| Boat, long balks, anchor, cable, oars, &c | 10 | Pontoon. | 12 | | | 96 |
| Abutment sills, claw-balks, rammers, &c | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Long balks (16), 1 anchor, 1 cable | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Chess (60 each) | 4 | Chess... | | | | |
| Officers' and company baggage, rations, company tool-chest. | 1 | Army... | | 13 | | 78 |
| Teamsters' baggage, rations, and picket-ropes | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Forage | 7 | Army... | | | | |
| Total in train No. 2 | 25 | | 12 | 13 | | 174 |
| *Train No. 3.* | | | | | | |
| Boat, long balks, anchor, cable, oars, &c | 10 | Pontoon. | 12 | | | 96 |
| Abutment sills, claw-balks, rammers | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Long balks (16), 1 anchor, 1 cable | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Chess (60 each) | 4 | Chess... | | | | |
| Officers' and company baggage, rations, company tool-chest. | 1 | Army... | | 12 | | 72 |
| Teamsters' baggage, rations, and picket-ropes | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Forage | 6 | Army... | | | | |
| Total in train No. 3 | 24 | | 12 | 12 | | 168 |
| *Train No. 4.* | | | | | | |
| Boat, long balks, anchor, cable, oars, &c | 10 | Pontoon. | 12 | | | 96 |
| Abutment sills, claw-balks, rammers | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Long balks (16), 1 anchor, 1 cable | 1 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Chess (60 each) | 4 | Chess... | | | | |
| Officers' and company baggage, rations, company tool-chest. | 1 | Army... | | 12 | | 72 |
| Teamsters' baggage, rations, and picket-ropes | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Forage | 6 | Army... | | | | |
| Total in train No. 4 | 24 | | 12 | 12 | | 168 |
| *Train No. 5.* | | | | | | |
| Abutment sills, claw-balks, rammers, &c | 1 | Pontoon. | 3 | | | 24 |
| Extra long balks (16 each) | 2 | Pontoon. | | | | |
| Extra chess (60 each) | 4 | Chess... | | | | |
| Extra cordage, buckets, lanterns, &c | 1 | Army... | | 6 | | 36 |
| Intrenching tools, &c | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Headquarters | 1 | Army... | | | 2 | 8 |
| Quartermaster's stores | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Hospital stores | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Commissary stores | 6 | Army... | | | | |
| Carpenters' tool-chest, shoeing frames | 1 | Army... | | 19 | | 114 |
| Teamsters' baggage, rations, and picket-ropes | 1 | Army... | | | | |
| Forage | 8 | Army... | | | | |
| Forge, iron, blacksmith's tools, &c | 2 | Forge... | | | | |
| Total in train No. 5 | 30 | | 3 | 25 | 2 | 182 |
| *Summary.* | | | | | | |
| Train No. 1 | 21 | | 12 | 15 | | 186 |
| Train No. 2 | 25 | | 12 | 13 | | 174 |
| Train No. 3 | 24 | | 12 | 12 | | 168 |
| Train No. 4 | 24 | | 12 | 12 | | 168 |
| Train No. 5 | 30 | | 3 | 25 | 2 | 182 |
| Grand total | 130 | | 51 | 77 | 2 | 878 |

Load of each boat-wagon: 1 anchor, 1 boat, 7 common balks.

In each boat: 1 cable, 2 spring-lines, 5 oars, 1 boat-hook.

In each locker: 22 lashings, 1 steel scoop-shovel or 1 bucket and 1 small scoop, 1 pick, 2 shovels, 2 axes, 2 hatchets, 10 rack-sticks.

Load of each abutment-wagon: 14 claw-balks, 2 abutment sills, 2 earth rammers, 1 anchor, 1 cable, 2 spring-lines, 4 pickets.

Each load of extra long balks: 16 long balks, 1 anchor, 1 cable, 2 spring-lines.

Load of chess-wagon: 60 chess to each wagon, set edgewise with the notch against the hind bolster, and a cross-bar between the two tiers, bound with a spring-line.

Load of cordage-wagon: 12 coils 1-inch rope for lashings, 4 coils 3-inch rope, 25 pounds cotton, small quantity of paint and oil, 2 dozen rubber buckets, 2 dozen tin lanterns, 1 box candles, 2 sets blocks and falls.

Load of tool-wagon: 200 axes, 150 shovels, 75 picks, 100 hatchets, 6 cross-cut saws, 6 bars, 4 broad-axes, 4 adzes, 2 casks 6-inch spikes, 2 casks twelve-penny nails, and 2 casks eight-penny nails.

These trains will make four bridges of 220 feet each, two of 420 each, one of 820 feet, or by adding material from the reserve train they are divisible into five equal or unequal trains making 900 feet of bridging, as in the late move across the Rapidan.

Experience has demonstrated the utility of several modifications made in bridge material and train wagons, and some others might with propriety be added. The anchor is suspended under each pontoon wagon by hooks and chains placed as far forward as practicable, thus by so much weight relieving the hind wheels, which are overloaded.*a* Whiffletrees have been attached to the pontoon wagons in place of the solid cross-bar, thus in a measure relieving the wheel mules.*a* In the pontoons which I have now in the field, I have had lockers made in the sterns, secured by hasps and padlocks, in which are placed lashings and tools as hereinbefore specified.*b* I have also had blocks, 2½ inches thick, spiked on the under side of the balk near the ends, 5½ inches apart, to act as claws, clasping the gunwale of the boat, to obviate the tendency of the balks to slide off the boats in the direction of the greatest travel, and to facilitate operations in building the bridges.*a*

One small carpenter's tool-chest is invoiced to the commandant of each company of engineer troops engaged in the pontoon trains in the field, and one company is assigned to the care and maintenance of each section or train of ten boats.*a* With his tool-chest and the contents of the boat-lockers, the commandant of each train has the means of repairs and renewals of his train, as also the roads, and he is held responsible for the condition of his train, for its movement on the march, and for the rapid construction of his bridge when ordered.

One lieutenant, as acting quartermaster, has charge of the transportation department of trains Nos. 1 and 2, and another lieutenant, as acting quartermaster, of trains Nos. 3, 4, and 5.

The Birago trestle has proved such a fruitful source of annoyance, is so uncertain, and so liable to failure at critical moments, that I have ceased to take any portion of it in the field, except claw-balks for abutment spans, unle s ordered to do so, and even for these it might be better to use common balks with claws put in the ends.*c*

The harness furnished us (the army style for quartermaster's wagons) is not suited to our service, and is often the cause of delay and trouble in the movement of trains; neither would light artillery harness answer, as there is too much weight upon the forward

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*a* Approved.

*b* Approved; but the lockers should not rise above the cross-braces.

*c* It is believed that both this trestle and these claw-balks proper can be advantageously dispensed with.

wheels of our wagons for the safety of the wheel mules with this kind of harness. A modification of the heavy artillery style of harness, with leather instead of chain traces, suited for the use of mules and arranged so that 1 man could drive 6-mule and 2 men 8-mule teams, would be a great improvement upon our present harness. Reform in this respect is very much needed. *a*

Instruments are not indispensable in the management of pontoon trains in the field. A pocket-compass and tape-line are sufficient for measuring approximately the width of streams to be bridged. *a* Engineer officers in charge of pontoon trains are, however, often detailed upon surveys and other engineers' duty, and it may therefore be advisable to furnish each detachment in charge of bridge trains with one good transit or goniometer, 1 chain of 100 feet, and 1 small case of drawing instruments, all securely packed. *a*

By having three days' rations carried in the men's haversacks, five days' in the company wagons, and seven days' in the commissary wagons, the transportation shown in the preceding table is sufficient to transport fifteen days' rations for the men and ten days' forage for the animals. Pontoon trains in the field require constant labor in repairs and renewals. Trains sent any great distance from where they are made up, however perfect they may be on the start, should have a field depot as near as practicable to the scene of operations, for repairing old and keeping on hand and supplying new material.

It is in my judgment doubtful if any arbitrary rule can be established for making up pontoon trains. They must necessarily often be varied in their character and composition, to suit the character of the country and the nature of the service required. The wooden pontoon (French bateaux) is undoubtedly all that is claimed for it by the French, and under most circumstances I should give it the preference over all others I have seen. It is very heavy, however, and difficult to transport over bad roads. It cannot be carried by men for any distance without excessive fatigue, and when it is desired to place boats in the water to throw troops over the river in the night to surprise a position, it cannot be taken to the river by teams and placed in the water without giving the alarm to the enemy. *b* On such occasions a few canvas pontoons would be invaluable. One of these boats is easily carried for miles on the shoulders of 8 men, and when taken to pieces can be carried over mountains and by difficult by-paths. On several occasions heretofore a few of these boats would have contributed greatly to the success of the Army of the Potomac, and I would respectfully suggest that about four canvas pontoons be added to each train of twenty, thirty, or forty French pontoons in the field. Four of these boats with no other material than the oars, boat-hooks, and 1-inch boards for covering the bottoms for men to stand on, could be carried in one wagon. *c*

Very respectfully,

I. SPAULDING,

*Lieut. Col. 50th N. Y. Vol. Engrs., Comdg. Pontoon Trains.*

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*a* Approved.

*b* While I think the wooden boats too heavy except for bridges of some permanence, and I decidedly give the preference to the canvas pontoons, especially for rapid movements, as requiring, with light or moderate loads in all cases only two-thirds the number of animals, I do not think the few canvas boats to the wooden train expedient for the purpose indicated, as when resistance is expected troops should be thrown over in heavy masses, requiring all the boats available.

*c* In my opinion this would require two wagons.

I add my cordial approval to Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding's suggestions. His great experience in the management of the trains gives to his remarks much weight, and I request for them an attentive consideration. The suggestions of Major Brainerd and Captain Ford have been called for and will be submitted whenever received.

W. H. PETTES,
*Colonel, Comdg. Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineers.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. FIFTIETH REGT. NEW YORK VOL. ENGINEERS,
*Washington, December* 11, 1863.

Col. W. H. PETTES,
*Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineers:*

SIR: Your communication of the 10th instant, directing me to send to these headquarters any suggestions that I could make from my personal experience of pontoniering, in compliance with the terms of the letter (a copy of which was inclosed) from Mr. Trowbridge, was received this day, and I hereby submit the following:

First. I would recommend that the rollers placed in the pontoons for the purpose of securing the lashings of the balks be removed. However they may appear theoretically, I consider that in practice they are a useless and expensive incumbrance, adding unnecessarily 78 pounds weight to the pontoons, already heavy.*a*

Second. That the anchors furnished be of a uniform size and weight, not to exceed 100 pounds.*b*

Third. That all oars furnished be of uniform size and length; 16 feet is quite long enough.*c*

Fourth. That the balks and side-rails be made after the same pattern, notched on one side at proper distances and depth to admit the lashings.*d*

Fifth. That the cordage for balk and side-rail lashings be of the same size and length, that may be used for either purpose.*c*

Sixth. That the Birago trestle for field purposes be abandoned altogether, involving as they do an extra amount of transportation.*c* They have been dragged for hundreds of miles without being used, and in very few cases, so far as my knowledge extends, where a pontoon-boat or temporary log abutment could not have been substituted with equal advantage, besides which the construction of the trestle is so imperfect that it always is necessary to prop and brace them before they are safe for the passage of artillery.

Seventh. That every train be permanently supplied with a regularly enlisted corps of drivers, enlisted and disciplined for that purpose; that the best of horses and artillery harness and saddles be used.*c* Trains have often been left until the last moment without transportation, and then furnished from the quartermaster's department with balky horses, or wild mules, and ignorant and cowardly and unreliable contrabands or civilians for drivers; at the same time they are expected to travel as rapidly as the best-equipped field batteries.

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*a* These rollers were placed to expedite lashings with a limited number of men; with an ample force they are not expedient.

*b* One-half 90; one-half 120.

*c* Approved.

*d* Approved; with notches on two opposite sides.

These suggestions, though not directly called for in the letter, are of such manifest importance that I have improved the opportunity to direct attention to them. The proportion of material as called for in the letter should be as follows, viz:

For a train of twenty-four boats:

| Articles. | Number. | Articles. | Number. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Boat-wagons (each loaded with 7 balks) | 24 | Carpenters' tools—Continued. | |
| Chess-wagons (each loaded with 60 chesses). | 10 | Hand-hammers | 2 |
| Tool-wagon | 1 | Broad-axes | 3 |
| Forge, containing a complete set of blacksmith's tools for shoeing, &c. | 1 | Augers (from ¼ to 2 inches) | 4 |
| Anchors | 24 | Chisels (from ¼ to 2 inches), set | 1 |
| Cables (each 150 feet long) | 24 | Draw-shaves | 2 |
| Spring-lines | 48 | Screw-drivers | 2 |
| Lashings (each 18 feet long, § cordage) | 480 | Mallets | 2 |
| Blocks and fall (pair) | 1 | Brace with bits | 1 |
| Buckets | 24 | One complete set calking chisels | |
| Wooden scoops | 24 | Chalk-line, chalk, and awl and mallets. | |
| Boat-hooks | 24 | Lanterns (best glass, well wired) | 10 |
| Oars (16 feet long) | 120 | ½-gal. can, 1 filler, ¼ doz wicking | |
| Jack-screws | 2 | Common axes | 50 |
| Instruments: | | Shovels, long handled | 50 |
| Drawing instruments, case | 1 | Picks | 25 |
| Field-glass | 1 | Cotton, pounds of | 20 |
| Field-compasses | 2 | Grease buckets | 40 |
| Tape-lines | 2 | To which may be added: | |
| Carpenters' tools, as follows: | | Claw-balks | 14 |
| Cross-cut saws | 2 | Wagon (for claw-balks) | 1 |
| Hand-saws | 2 | Extra long balks | 14 |
| | | Wagon (for long balks) | 1 |

A liberal supply of cordage should always be taken.

The pontoon and chess wagons as now arranged and repaired by Captain Ford at this depot are the most complete and reliable.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WESLEY BRAINERD,

*Major Fiftieth Regiment New York Volunteer Engineers.*

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded.

I would call attention to the remarks in regard to the trestles. I have always found them unreliable. They are bulky, costly, and of little use in the field. I would also suggest that the claw-balk is unnecessarily bulky and might be replaced with advantage by common balk cut of the same length as the claw-balk (20 feet 8 inches), with iron claws let into the wood and the ends chamfered to allow for the rise and fall of the boat without displacing or splitting the chess.*a*

W. H. PETTES,

*Colonel, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

ENGINEER DEPOT,

*Washington, D. C., December 24, 1863.*

Col. W. H. PETTES,

*Comdg. Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineers:*

SIR: A copy of the letter of William P. Trowbridge, esq., of New York, addressed to General Totten, was received by me some time since, and in accordance with your order accompanying it, I would

*a* Approved.

respectfully submit the following, derived from actual experience in the field and in superintending repairs of trains and equipage at this depot. I take the modified French equipage of thirty-four boats as a foundation, and would have a complete train composed of the following material:

| Articles. | Number. | Articles. | Number. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pontoon-wagons | 36 | Chess-binders, 30 feet of 1-inch rope | 13 |
| Box-tool-wagons | 2 | axes | 100 |
| Chess-wagons | 13 | Shovels | 100 |
| Field-forge, A | 1 | Pick-axes | 25 |
| Pontoons | 34 | Crow-bars | 4 |
| Long balks | 254 | Earth-rammers | 4 |
| Claw-balks | 18 | Beetles | 4 |
| Chesses | 780 | Sledges | 2 |
| Oars | 170 | Jack-screws | 2 |
| Boat-hooks | 34 | Cross-cut saws | 4 |
| Rubber buckets | 34 | Blocks and falls, sets | 2 |
| Wooden scoops | 34 | Small chests, containing an assortment of carpenters' tools, with screws, nails, and spikes. | 2 |
| Row-locks | 306 | | |
| Rack-sticks | 204 | | |
| Anchors | 36 | Strong "canal lanterns," with a supply of oil, wicks, &c. | 20 |
| Grease buckets | 52 | | |
| Extra wagon-tongues | 52 | The usual assortment of smith's tools and material, as ordinarily furnished to an artillery field-forge, with extra king-bolts, linch-pins, and anchor-keys, with safety-chains attached, and washers of different sizes for linch-pins. | |
| Abutment sills | 4 | | |
| Pickets | 8 | | |
| Cables, 125 feet to 140 feet of 1-inch rope | 34 | | |
| Lashings, 18 feet of ⅝-inch rope | 600 | | |
| Coils, ⅝-inch rope | 10 | | |
| Coils, 1-inch rope | 6 | | |

And for land transportation I would arrange the above material, as follows:

Thirty-four pontoons, containing each 5 oars, 1 boat-hook, 1 bucket, 1 scoop, 9 row-locks, 6 rack-sticks, 1 cable. Two of these pontoons should contain an abutment sill, fitted on 5 saddles made of ordinary balk.

Thirty-four pontoon wagons, each containing 1 pontoon, 7 common balks, 1 anchor, 1 grease bucket, 1 extra tongue.

One pontoon-wagon (abutment), containing 14 claw-balks, 2 sills, 8 pickets, 1 anchor, 1 grease bucket, 1 extra tongue.

One pontoon-wagon (balk), containing 4 claw-balks, 16 long balks, 1 anchor, 1 grease bucket, 1 extra tongue.

Thirteen chess-wagons, each containing 60 to 62 chesses, 1 grease bucket, 1 chess-binder, 1 extra tongue.

One field-forge, A, containing 1 extra tongue, the usual complement of smith's tools and material, and extra linch-pins, king-bolts, washers, and anchor-keys with safety-chain attached.

One box-tool-wagon (tools), containing 100 axes, 100 shovels, 4 earth-rammers, 4 beetles, 2 sledges, 4 cross-cut saws, 25 pick-axes, 4 crow-bars, 2 jack-screws, 1 set blocks and fall, 1 grease bucket, 1 extra tongue, 1 small tool-chest of carpenters' tools with screws, nails, and spikes.

One box-tool-wagon (cordage), containing 600 lashings 18 feet long of ⅝-inch cordage, 10 coils manilla cordage ⅝-inch diameter, 6 coils manilla rope 1-inch diameter, 1 set blocks and fall, 20 spring-lines or chess-binders 30 feet long of 1-inch rope, 1 grease bucket, 20 canal lanterns with extra oil and wicking, 1 extra tongue, 1 small tool-chest of carpenters' tools, with screws, nails, and spikes.

In moving train or building bridges I have found it the most convenient to divide the tools and cordage equally between the two tool-

wagons, have one tool-wagon precede and the other follow the train, while the forge has its position in the center; with this arrangement tools and cordage for temporary repairs are always at hand when wanted. *a*

Although Mr. Trowbridge's letter does not, perhaps, call for anything more, yet I have ventured to add the following suggestions derived from my experience in repairs, &c., at this depot, relating to material, &c.:

Pontoons: As refitted here are plated; that is, an iron plate of $\frac{3}{16}$-inch iron and about 7 by 9 inches is screwed on over every but-joint; this is absolutely necessary to resist the strain of land transportation. *b*

Pontoon-wagons: I have fitted all these with whiffletrees by cutting off the projecting ends of the cross-bar with two lock-chains instead of one, and with hooks and chains for suspending the anchors to the side-rails, thus relieving the rear axle and bringing the weight nearly over the forward wheels, where it ought to rest. *a*

Officers in charge of trains during the recent movements, when these two improvements have just been tested, are unanimous in favor of both of them. I would also suggest that if new wagons are constructed they should be remodeled so as to admit of the introduction of an evener or double-tree in addition to the whiffletrees, thus relieving the wheel horses or mules of strain. *a*

Balk (longer common): I suggest that the balk and side-rail be made alike, or rather that the side-rail, as a separate piece, be abolished entirely. *a* While a side-rail will not make a balk without alteration, any balk will answer for a side-rail perfectly as it is, and whatever advantage may be derived from a difference in form is more than balanced by the loss of time in arranging them to load or build in the confusion if not previously arranged. In constructing here I am making all balk and no side-rail.

Balk (claw): In the absence of the Birago trestle or the canvas pontoon (when these are only required), the common long balk may be substituted in the abutment bays of a bridge by shortening and spiking or screwing in claws made of pieces of plank. *a*

Chess: The Y-pattern adopted here, and by which all new ones are made, is of $1\frac{1}{2}$-inch clear pin 13 feet long, with a shoulder $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep cut in each side and extending 2 feet from each end, with four rivets of $\frac{1}{4}$-inch iron 12 inches and $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, one 1 inch from the end and one 1 inch from each shoulder, experience having proved that the rivet is required at the shoulder as much as at the end. *c* The width is imperatively required to be 12 inches.

Chess-wagons: As originally furnished were too tightly constructed in every part, and the system of locking very defective; until altered and remodeled at this depot none of them were capable of carrying even half an ordinary load.

Anchors: As hitherto furnished have weighed all the way from 60 to 140 pounds, while we have a number here, probably furnished for a larger bridge at Harper's Ferry, running from 500 to 850 pounds. I think that experience has proved that an anchor weighing much less than 100 pounds cannot be relied upon, and that much over this

*a* Approved.

*b* The planks on sides and bottom should in all cases run the whole length without buts, thereby dispensing with these plates.

*c* This is as previously ordered by me.

is so much useless weight to transport. I would therefore recommend a uniform weight of 110 pounds.*a*

Oars and boat-hooks of all lengths and sizes have been provided. I think oars of 16 feet and boat-hooks of 7 or 8 feet lengths are best adapted to our wants. *b*

Lashings: As between balk and side-rail, so between rack and balk lashings. A balk lashing will readily answer for a side-rail, while a rack lashing cannot be used for balk, and the confusion and delay arising from constantly getting them mixed is far more than an offset to any possible advantage derived from different lengths and sizes. After carefully experimenting and trying them in actual service we have adopted a uniform size and length for both purposes, and make them of manilla rope ⅝-inch diameter and 18 feet long, single. *b* This is a balk lashing, and doubled twice it makes a far better rack lashing than anything heretofore furnished. We splice an eye in one end and wind the other.

Cables: These are seldom required over 150 feet in length, and a variation of more than from 130 to 160 feet is not required; when a longer cable is really needed the extra coils carried will always supply it. Manilla rope of 1 inch diameter is large enough and strong enough.*b*

Spring-lines: I will venture the assertion that these have never been used during this war (in actual service) as the text requires, and I have never used them except to connect spare boats or bind on loads of chesses.

Rack-sticks, like many other articles, have varied in size, shape, and length. I have found that 2 feet in length and 1¼ inches diameter makes the best size for all practical purposes, and as a many-sided stick is far better than a round one, and as they are never, as originally, tied to the bridge by a separate lashing, I cannot see the propriety of continuing to furnish turned sticks, with a hole and a cord in each end.*b*

Abutment sills: A plain stick of wood of the ordinary dimensions and not less than 16 feet in length answers every purpose; the sunken rings and staples are never used, and are of no practical utility.*b*

Trestles: The Birago trestle has failed in every instance where it has been used under my observation, and in very many others; it is totally unreliable without additional supports, and is a cumberous and useless addition to our already formidable trains. In two instances I have seen the cap break like a pipe-stem under the load of an ordinary army wagon. As a combination, or connecting link between the pontoon and the shore, I have never seen a case where it was absolutely required. The use of a pontoon fitted with a saddle does away with it entirely and the common or long balk may readily be fitted to take the place of the claw-balk by screwing or spiking in a claw made of pieces of plank, with an actual saving of weight if not a gain in strength.

Transportation: Mr. Trowbridge does not allude to transportation for our train, from the fact, I presume, that it does not come within his department; but I cannot resist giving it an opinion, that from the first crossing at Fredericksburg to the present time, whatever blame is justly charged to the pontoon trains is owing entirely to the inefficient teams and cowardly drivers furnished us; mules that never

*a* One-half of 90 pounds; one-half of 120 pounds.
*b* Approved.

had a harness on, and drivers who never saw a mule, are provided at an hour's notice, and expected to propel promptly a bridge train that really requires the best animals and most intelligent drivers that can be procured. To obviate all this and make our trains equal at least to those of the commissary and quartermaster's departments, I would suggest the propriety of keeping on hand and in reserve teams enough for the ordinary requirements of a sizable bridge train; that they be carefully fitted with a harness that shall be a modification of the present artillery harness, provided with drivers intelligent and reliable, and be constantly and thoroughly drilled to their expected work.*a* From this reserve of efficient and well-drilled teams, trains already in the field could draw their supplies and in this way be kept up to the mark.

The fact that Mr. Trowbridge has continued to furnish bridge trains "according to the original schedule," accounts for the gradual accumulation at this depot of quantities of abutment sills, pit and cross-cut saws, pole-yokes, windlasses, ship anchors, and heavy hawser ropes, large enough (7-inch circumference) for a ship's cable. The last three articles are of no use at this depot, and of no value to any of our trains, and I would suggest the propriety of turning them over to the Navy Department where they might be made available.

Very respectfully,

GEO. W. FORD,
*Capt. Co. A, 50th Regt. N. Y. Vol. Engrs., In Charge Eng. Depot.*

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded.

Captain Ford has had considerable experience with trains in the field and also in the depot for repairs at Washington. His observations are entitled to attentive consideration. He has gone so fully into the wants of a field train of pontoons that there is scarcely anything to add to his remarks. I fully concur with him as to the necessity of a more perfect and efficient system of transportation. To make the train proposed by Captain Ford more perfect, I would add to it a few instruments, say a prismatic compass, a small transit, a field-glass, and a small set of protracting and drawing instruments.

W. H. PETTES,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 25, 1864.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

I transmit the following telegram from General Sullivan for information of the General-in-Chief:

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *January* 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

Scouts up the valley to Woodstock returned. Report Early at Harrisonburg; Rosser, with Seventh, Eleventh, and Twelfth Virginia, and White's battalion, between New Market and Timberville; Imboden at Cross Keys. Major Quinn reports 9 prisoners.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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*a* Approved.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January 25, 1864.*

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

The scouts sent out by your orders have returned; they saw nothing nor could learn nothing.

HENRY N. HARRISON,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. } HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF N. C.,
*New Berne, N. C., January 25, 1864.*

During the absence of Major-General Peck, the undersigned assumes command of the District of North Carolina. All existing orders and regulations will remain in force until modified or revoked, and reports, returns, and communications will be addressed as hitherto to the several chiefs of staff departments.

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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*Report exhibiting position of batteries and obstructions on approaches to Wilmington, as derived from observation and the examination of pilots, deserters, and others, &c., by Charles K. Graham, brigadier-general of volunteers.**

*Fort Caswell*, situated on Oak Island, constructed many years previous to the rebellion, is an extensive granite work, which has been materially strengthened by mounting heavier guns, the addition of a water battery composed of earth, and long lines of rifle-pits. It is said to be the intention of the rebels to iron-plate it.

*Sand Battery.*—On Oak Island, to southward and westward of Fort Caswell; recently erected; strength unknown.

*Sand Battery.*—On Bald Head; strength unknown; four embrasures can be seen facing the sea; materially strengthened of late; the embankments and traverses are of unusual height and thickness.

*Fort Johnson*, at Smithville, 1½ miles from Fort Caswell, is a strong earth-work, mounting some heavy English guns. At this place is the naval depot, Capt. William T. Muse commanding.

*Fort Fisher* is located about half a mile from Federal Point, on the north side of New Inlet. It is a formidable work of earth, of extensive proportions, revetted with heavy timber, and having bomb-proofs sufficient to shelter 2,000 men. It mounts at least thirty guns—some say fifty—most of them facing toward New Inlet, but it likewise has some guns commanding the river, and others the road leading to Wilmington.

*Mound Battery*, or *Martello Tower*, is situated between Fort Fisher and Federal Point. It is said to be 60 feet high, and mounts two heavy guns.

Long lines of rifle-pits encompass Fort Fisher.

*Fort Saint Philip* is located at Old Brunswick, 13 miles distant from Fort Caswell, immediately on the banks of the river. It mounts

* Received Headquarters of the Army, January 25, 1864.

quite a number of guns of heavy caliber, reported as high as thirty.

Besides these prominent batteries are numerous earth-works thrown up on Oak Island, Smith's Island, and in the inlets to the northward and southward, where light batteries are worked, when our blockading vessels chase the blockade-runners in too close, or remain to reconnoiter.

*Masonborough Inlet.*—There is at this point a light battery of Whitworth guns, with a small infantry support—report says a regiment. The battery is shifted from point to point as its services are required. Our blockading squadron has been a good deal annoyed by it.

*Obstructions.*—Piles at one time were driven in the channel near Fort Caswell, but it is probable they have been allowed to be washed away since the other batteries have been erected. Portions of a barricade floated seaward last fall.

At Fort Saint Philip the river is narrow and the channel approaches within a few yards of the fort. It is piled all the way across except in one spot provided for the passage of vessels. The piles are armed with iron spikes, firmly bound together by chains, and kept from swagging with the current by heavy anchors. At night a chain is stretched across the opening. No vessels are allowed to pass upward bound before visited and examined. The quarantine is likewise at this point.

General Whiting commands the Southern Department of North Carolina, with headquarters at Wilmington. He is said to be an excellent officer, but very intemperate.

Brigadier-General Clingman commands at Wilmington three full regiments with light batteries.

*Estimate of force.*—One thousand men at Fort Caswell, and batteries on Oak Island and Bald Head Bluff, Colonel Hedrick commanding. One thousand men, including one company of cavalry, at Fort Fisher, Martello Tower, and Masonborough Inlet, Colonel Lamb commanding. Three regiments at Wilmington, under command of Brigadier-General Clingman.

*Naval force.*—Two iron rams, one only plated, mounting three guns each; considered unserviceable. One supply steamer, the Petit, plying between Forts Caswell and Fisher. One gun-boat, reported to be building under the direction of Capt. William F. Lynch, between Wilmington and Fayetteville. Besides these vessels, a few schooners can be observed sailing up and down the river.

*Blockade-runners.*—Blockade-runners make land from 15 to 25 miles to the northward of New Inlet. By reason of their light color, exceeding lowness, the noiseless revolutions of their feathering paddles, light draught, and extreme speed, in many instances they evade our cruisers. When chased they invariably make for the shoal water, and, if likely to be captured, increase their head of steam, beach the vessel, and allow the engine to work until she is driven so high on the beach it is almost a work of impossibility to drag her off. On these occasions, as soon as the report of our guns are heard or the signals of the blockade-runners are observed, the light batteries of Whitworth guns are brought down and used. The night signals of the blockade-runners are frequently changed. The pilots are, in most cases, taken on board at Nassau. Frequently they are shareholders; in other instances they are paid by the round trip, as high as $3,000 being sometimes given for a successful run in and out.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. OF ARMY, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE,
No. 40. } *Washington, January 26, 1864.*

1. Brig. Gen. Francis C. Barlow, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of the South and assigned to the Second Army Corps. He will report, by letter, to Major-General Hancock, U. S. Volunteers, at Harrisburg, Pa., for recruiting duty for that corps.

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By command of Major-General Halleck:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER, *January* 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

I sent a reconnaissance toward Madison Court-House across Robertson River. It reports no enemy this side of the river, except the Fourth Virginia Cavalry. Four of them were captured by a party sent out.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. NINTH ARMY CORPS (FOR SPECIAL SERVICE),
*New York, January* 26, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:*

MY DEAR SIR: I feel that the former consideration and kindness with which you have treated me warrants me in writing you this semi-official letter, and if the suggestions therein made prove worthless from non-accordance with your other plans, or from any other cause, you will of course know that I will, nevertheless, acquiesce and co-operate most cheerfully to the extent of my ability in any plans that may be adopted for a future campaign.

In view of the fact that we now hold very strong and defensible positions on the main railroad communications of the enemy between Virginia and the Southwest, via East Tennessee, it would seem to be most desirable that the lines leading to the southwest through North Carolina should also be cut and held by our forces, and this can certainly be no better done from any point than from the excellent base which we now hold in the waters of North Carolina. Troops and supplies can be transported to Morehead City by heavy-draught vessels and to New Berne through Hatteras Inlet by light-draught vessels, and troops can also be sent from Norfolk to the Chowan River, or to Elizabeth City, from which points they can be taken on board light-draught vessels for future operations.

Two plans have suggested themselves to me:

First. To concentrate all the force possible at Morehead City and New Berne, from which points rapid movements can be made upon Wilmington, the troops from Morehead City making a direct attack upon the place, while those from New Berne protect this first column from any flank movements of the enemy. It is my opinion that Wilmington can be taken by a dash of this kind. After this work

is accomplished it would seem advisable to make a combined naval and land attack on Fort Caswell, holding Wilmington with a small garrison well intrenched. Should it become necessary to besiege Fort Caswell, a sufficient force can be left for that purpose, while the main body is moved into the interior upon the communications of the enemy at Goldsborough and Raleigh.

Second. To concentrate at Norfolk and Roanoke Island, via Hatteras Inlet, troops and supplies, and from these two points make a rapid concentration at Winston, or some other point on the Chowan River, from which a quick movement can be made on the main railroad line of the enemy at Hicksford, or on the two points, Weldon and Gaston, on the Roanoke River; either of which points being held and intrenched with an accumulation of twenty to thirty days' supplies, the enemy would no doubt be forced to come down in force to attack us in our intrenchments, which could be held while such force as might be designated moves upon Richmond, or might possibly compel him to abandon Richmond and retreat via Danville. At all events it would force him into decisive movement of some kind, such as making an attack upon the main body of the Army of the Potomac, or a concentration with Longstreet in East Tennessee, or one of the two movements already mentioned; in either of which it would seem that the advantages are altogether in our favor, particularly as the veteran regiments of Grant's army will have returned before that time, re-enforced by recruits and new organizations to an extent sufficient to enable him not only to hold the very defensible positions now occupied by him in East Tennessee, but will also enable him to make such offensive movements as may be deemed proper.

To carry out either one of the plans herein suggested it would seem necessary that certain things be done, as follows:

First. All the old regiments and batteries of the Ninth Corps in East Tennessee that are entitled to re-enlist having exercised that privilege, it would seem proper that the few regiments that have served nearly two years, together with the batteries, should be allowed to return with the corps for this work.

Second. That, as far as possible, the old Third Division of the Ninth Corps should be reattached. A considerable portion of the regiments have re-enlisted and are now in New England, and will fill up more rapidly if they could know that they were to be reattached to the corps for an expedition.

Third. That the command of Colonel Howard, formerly known as the Marine Artillery, with the light-draught gun-boats now being built by Mr. Wiard, should be attached, at least temporarily. The command could be largely increased from the towns on the New England coast if an arrangement of this kind could be made.

Fourth. Inasmuch as I have no regiments in the Ninth Corps from Maine or Vermont, and but three from New York, it would seem advisable to commence the organization of companies enough for three new regiments in Maine, one in Vermont, and ten in New York. The plan for raising these regiments that I would suggest would be to only grant permits to parties to raise companies with the distinct understanding that no field officers are to be appointed until the companies are absolutely organized into regiments. I am satisfied from my experience in the North Carolina expedition that a most formidable force could be organized if these conditions are fulfilled, possibly not to the extent of 50,000 men, but to very near that number. At all events I feel confident that a force sufficient to ac-

complish the work can be raised very soon. In fact, I have never felt more confident in the beginning of any work than I would in beginning this, if the proper conditions are fulfilled.

The difficulty may present itself to you in view of the fact that the Department of North Carolina now forms a portion of General Butler's command. This need not affect your decision in the matter in the least, because I will gladly undertake the work under his direction, if it is deemed for the interest of the public service; or if deemed advisable, I would be willing to assist in organizing an expedition with the understanding that it is to be commanded by any other officer that the Department might designate. If you were to think it desirable, however, to again appoint me to the independent command of the Department of North Carolina, General Butler's command might be increased by attaching to it the Department of Maryland. No matter what your decision may be you may be sure that I will heartily acquiesce and co-operate in it.

My great anxiety to see this movement carried out, thereby establishing our forces upon the only two remaining lines of railroad communication between Virginia and the cotton States, has prompted me to write you this personal letter and send it by Major Van Buren, a member of my staff, who has my entire confidence, and to whom I beg you to give such answer as your own good judgment and the interest of the public service may dictate.

In addition to what I have already requested, I would suggest that permission be granted me to organize a division from the colored troops now forming in New England, composed of infantry, artillery, and cavalry.

The details of the organization of the expedition, such as procuring launches, surf-boats, means of land transportation, the accumulation of supplies and material, are matters with which I ought to be reasonably conversant, as you will realize when you remember my experience in service on the coast as well as on long lines of purely inland transportation. And I trust that you may deem it for the interest of the public service to coincide with my views.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE.

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FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 26, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 2.20 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

Can you send me Baker's cavalry? If so, how soon? Can they be landed at Yorktown?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, January* 26, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: I telegraphed you at some length about the conversion of the Point Lookout hospital to other uses, and I stated all the reasons that I could state in a telegram. I get an answer through General Canby that the Surgeon-General reports that it cannot be spared.

There are accommodations there for quite a number of patients, say 1,500, possibly more. There are less than 100 Union patients

there. There is a guard to guard it, numbering almost as many as the patients. One-quarter of these patients should be sent to their regiments were it not that they are needed to make a show of sick men. I have got in my department hospital accommodations for more than one-half of my entire force were it wounded to-morrow. I can take every patient from Point Lookout hospital and keep them at Fortress Monroe, at the McClellan and Chesapeake hospitals, and have hospital buildings extra, in which I am quartering colored troops, because I have a sensible medical director and medical staff. I have the honor to repeat in regard to the hospitals what I did in regard to the engineer, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians."

You did me the honor to say when I last saw you that you never knew a department commander that was willing to give up any troops that he once got in his possession, and I asked if you ever knew the chief of a staff department give up anything that he once got in his possession, and I trust you will answer the one as I answered the other.

With gold at 160, I think a little pains should be taken to save the United States a thousand dollars a day expense to feed 100 men. We had better board them at the Continental. We could do it at less expense, and on an average they are not more debilitated than the dandies we find there. I speak not without knowledge, for I have been through this hospital and seen these men. Having done my duty in putting before you the facts, it remains for you to make such application of them as your good judgment will dictate best for the public service.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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GETTY'S STATION, *January* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILD:

General Heckman is absent at present. The following is copy of his dispatch to General Butler:

I made a cavalry reconnaissance to Pig Point; they found no signs of any rebels, and the citizens say there has been none in that section of the country since their evacuation of Suffolk. The squadron returned to camp this a. m. at 5 o'clock.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

C. T. GARDNER,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., *January* 27, 1864.
(Received 1.45 a. m., 28th.)

The PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

I received the following message from a loyal, well-informed man:

NEW BERNE, *January* 19, 1864.
(Via New York, 25th.)

Important movements on foot in interior. Your friends want you to come here.

C. B. DABBLE.

When the country needs my services, not as Governor, I am ready to come.

EDWD. STANLEY.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 27, 1864. (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Two brigades of Rodes' division, Ewell's corps, have been sent recently either to Johnston or Longstreet; one on the 20th instant, the other on the 25th.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 27, 1864.

1. Brig. Gen. George W. Getty, U. S. Volunteers, having reported to the major-general commanding, in compliance with paragraph 2 of Special Orders, No. 8, of January 6, 1864, from the Headquarters of the Army, is assigned temporarily to duty as acting inspector-general of the Army of the Potomac.

* * * * * * *

7. Col. H. S. Burton, Fifth U. S. Artillery, having reported to the major-general commanding, in compliance with paragraph 4 of Special Orders, No. 31, of the 21st instant, from the War Department, is assigned to the command of the Artillery Reserve, and during the absence of Brigadier-General Hunt will also discharge the duties of chief of artillery of this army, relieving, in the latter, Col. C. H. Tompkins, First Rhode Island Artillery.

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By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
*January* 27, 1864.

Lieut. M. E. RICHARDS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division:*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that Private Warren C. Golden, Eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, on duty as safeguard at Mr. Payne's house, near Kelly's Ford, has just come in and reports that a force of 19 rebel cavalry under command of a major appeared where this soldier was on duty last night at 8 o'clock. They reported themselves being a detachment from Hampton's Legion on a scout. After remaining an hour they moved off toward Mr. Buchanan's in the direction of Bealeton. I would suggest that a competent force of cavalry be sent to scout in this direction.

I am informed by this soldier that the colored people report that many guerrillas are concealed during the day in the houses of the citizens east of Marsh Run.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH HAYES,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
*January* 27, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

I have directed Captain Vose, in charge of the cavalry on duty here, to send out a detachment to look after this party and gain further information, if possible, of their movements.

J. B. SWEITZER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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HDQRS. 2D BATTALION, 1ST RHODE ISLAND CAVALRY,
*January* 27, 1864.

Capt. C. B. MERVINE,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, Fifth Army Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that a scouting party sent by orders of Colonel Sweitzer has just returned to camp (6.30 p. m.), and report having seen no enemy and heard of none except the 20 reported as seen at Mr. Payne's last evening, which they reassure him (lieutenant) was there and retired toward Hartwood Church and vicinity. The Second Pennsylvania Cavalry, on picket on that flank, heard of no enemy near.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN VOSE,
*Captain, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER, *January* 27, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

A scouting party of the Third Indiana Cavalry was attacked by a couple of squadrons of enemy's cavalry and some 10 of the 18 of the party are still missing. No particulars. All quiet.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS TYLER'S DIVISION,
*Fairfax Court-House, Va., January* 27, 1864.

Colonel LOWELL:

Information has been received at these headquarters that a considerable number of rebel cavalry are in the neighborhood of Sangster's Station. General Tyler wishes you to send a squadron of cavalry to scour the country from Vienna, through Centreville, to Bull Run bridge, in order if possible to intercept them. It is not important the squadron should leave before 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, although the hour of leaving will be left entirely to yourself.

Yours, respectfully,

W. A. LA MOTTE,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ALEXANDRIA, VA., *January* 27, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:*

SIR: It is with deep regret that I feel compelled in the discharge of my official duty, however humble, to call your attention to the

occupation of Accomack and Northampton Counties with colored troops to act as a provost guard. I am informed that 600 colored troops are sent to those counties, I suppose to take the place of the white troops there. Two companies of white troops is a large estimate for those counties, and from the number of those sent, I suppose, as a matter of course, the white ones will be removed.

Discipline is the first requisite for troops of any color, but from my observation veteran troops soon lose their discipline when placed on a roving service such as required in those counties, and none but soldiers of the best habits should be placed on that duty. These colored troops are new recruits just from bondage. Their own welfare requires discipline, hence their place is in the field or fortification where they can be under the eye of their officers.

This disposition of troops will have a bad effect on the white soldier in the field. Evil-disposed persons will circulate the news through the army that colored troops are sent back for guard duty, where there is no danger, while the white man is sent into the front of the battle. Pardon these suggestions.

But the great objection is the positive insolence of these colored soldiers, undisciplined as they are, to the white citizen. It is at the risk of the life of the citizen that we make any complaint of their bad conduct. I know you would not leave your wife and daughters in a community of armed negroes, undisciplined and just liberated from bondage, with no other armed protection. My information is that it is a terrible stroke to the Union cause in that section. Union men are justly frightened for the safety of their families. The citizens there are disarmed. I am happy to say the Union cause was growing daily in those counties.

The Legislature of the State has ordered a State convention to abolish slavery in the State. The delegates are all elected, and I have not heard of a single man being elected who is not in favor of abolishing slavery. The people in Accomack and Northampton will lose from 6,000 to 8,000 slaves, but still they bear it—must bear it. A number of slave-holders are with us, and the Union cause growing. Is it right now to torture both parties with the terrible apprehensions that must haunt them by the presence of these troops, when all reflecting men must doubt the propriety of it, looking alone to the good of the soldier, the service, and the policy in reference to the white soldiers? The same state of affairs exists at Portsmouth.

It is painful to me to raise these questions, but I am sure the honor of your administration requires the correction of abuses where they exist. I am satisfied these things are not done by your orders.

I am, yours, &c.

F. H. PEIRPOINT.

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FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 27, 1864.
(Received 1.05 p. m.)

Brigadier-General RUCKER,
*Chief Quartermaster:*

At what time may I expect Baker's cavalry at Yorktown? The river is open.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, January 27, 1864.*

Rear-Admiral LEE,
*Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:*

SIR: Mrs. Nottingham, the mother of Lieutenant-Commander Upshur, of the Minnesota, states that I am about to make a land advance on Richmond; that the iron-clads are expected down, and that we are afraid of them, and that the fleet are going up the river, and that I am to make an attack by land. A conversation, of which this is a garbled report, took place in my office in the presence of yourself and Lieutenant Upshur, and which is now being repeated, and retailed in Norfolk by his mother. It would seem rather difficult under the circumstances to make a combined attack by the army and navy, when officers in the navy are more leaky than their own vessels.

You will see that my informant, who informs me that this conversation took place in Norfolk, must have had some means of access to our conversation, not through you or me. I pray you make an investigation, for it would seem to be pretty clear that either thoughtlessly or willfully, I hope thoughtlessly, Lieutenant-Commander Upshur must have mentioned the substance of what he heard. Fortunately neither of us had any intention of making any such attack, and it is well we spoke upon the subject, as the experiment has been tried of how the secret would have been kept if we had intended an expedition.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Yorktown, Va., January 27, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. GEORGE STETZEL,
*Commanding Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry:*

SIR: You will detail five companies of your regiment, under command of a field officer, with instructions to proceed at once with the enrollment of all citizens, both white and colored, residing in that district of country lying south and east of a line stretched from the head of the Ware River to Gloucester Court-House, and thence to the York River in a southwest direction. One day's rations of forage and three of subsistence will be taken; two wagons will accompany the party for the purpose of conveying forage obtained from farmers to camp. For forage thus taken proper receipts will be given. The boats to convey the party across the river will be ready at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning. The officer in charge will report to these headquarters. A map of the country has been furnished and a list of those already enrolled can be obtained at these headquarters.

I write by command of Col. S. P. Spear.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. HAMILTON SHEPARD,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Yorktown, Va., January 27, 1864.*

Col. B. F. ONDERDONK,
*Commanding First New York Mounted Rifles:*

COLONEL: For the purpose of carrying out the intent of General Orders, No. 1, current series, headquarters Yorktown, Va., you will proceed to enroll all citizens, both white and colored, residing within that district of country lying between the York and James Rivers north and west of a line commencing at the mouth of the Back River (upper branch); thence to its head across to the head of Deep Creek, and thence to its mouth inside of and within 3 miles of the picket-line in front of Williamsburg.

You will detail a force, to consist of not less than two strong companies, to proceed at once to the line above indicated, there to commence upon the duty prescribed, coming in the direction of Williamsburg, and proceeding until the duty assigned shall have been accomplished; they will carry sufficient rations of forage and subsistence to enable them to fully accomplish the purpose intended, viz, a full and complete enrollment.

Should it seem more feasible or advisable you can at your discretion divide the district assigned you into sub-districts, taking care that a sufficient number of men be allotted to each district to fully carry out the object of general orders.

I send a list of citizens already enrolled, which may be of use; be pleased to return it as soon as you shall have finished with it.

I write by command of Col. S. P. Spear.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. HAMILTON SHEPARD,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January 28, 1864.*

General NEWTON:

In answer to your dispatch of this day's date, I am instructed to reply that the major-general commanding does not object to the withdrawal of the brigade at Cedar Mountain, but considers that the brigade at Mitchell's Station should be maintained at that point. The guard at the signal station on Cedar Mountain should erect a block-house or stockade to guard against a sudden attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January 28, 1864.*

General S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

The commanding general has directed me to erect two block-houses, one at Warrenton Junction, the other near Catlett's Station. A detail of 250 men and twenty-five wagons will be required at each of these points; half of the men in each party should be provided with axes. Captain Turnbull will be at Catlett's Station to-morrow to receive the working party.

Very respectfully,

J. C. DUANE,
*Major of Engineers.*

HEADQUARTERS ESCORT, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*January* 28, 1864.

Col. FREDERICK T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I transmit to you a report of the scout which left here yesterday afternoon for the purpose of gaining some knowledge as to whether certain Confederate soldiers were concealed in any of the houses within 50 miles of general headquarters. Left here for Rappahannock Station. Kept down this side of river, where, after passing our last infantry picket-post some miles, I halted at the house of the Payne family. There I learned from safeguard that some 19 rebel cavalry had been there night before. Losing no time I went on; crossed below Kelly's Ford. Searched house at Holly Church and house below it. No information. Searched houses of Widow Allen, Courtney's, Mallard's, Stringfellow's, the last two being at or near Grove Church. Went below Grove Church, and then retraced steps toward Bealeton. No information gained except that some of the rebel cavalry have been in the neighborhood of our pickets some few days since. I arrived in camp near daylight this morning. After going over the ground I hardly thought it necessary to remain out when the men and horses could get sleep and feed under better circumstances. My opinion, colonel, is that if I had started about 4 o'clock this morning I would have accomplished more. Some cavalry was ahead of me on road some three or four hours, which I supposed to be the Rhode Island.

I am, colonel, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. PAGE,
*Captain, Commanding Escort, Fifth Army Corps.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 28, 1864.

General GREGG,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The following report from the signal officers on Cedar Mountain is sent for your information and government:

GENERAL: The following report has just been received from Garnett's Mountain signal station:

"JANUARY 28, 1864—12 m.

"CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER ARMY OF THE POTOMAC:

"Contrabands arriving last night report Stuart on the western slope of Thoroughfare Mountain. No changes observed.

"WIGGINS and CAMP,
"*Lieutenants, Signal Officers.*"

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
*Acting Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The following is respectfully forwarded:

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

The following report has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

"SIGNAL STATION, GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN,
"*January* 28, 1864—5 p. m.

"Captain NORTON,
"*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

"During yesterday and to-day I have noticed large camp smokes to the west of Thoroughfare Mountain; also in the woods to the south and north of Thoroughfare Mountain there are smokes indicating the presence of troops, but too much concealed by woods for any reliable estimate of their numbers. This would seem to confirm the reports of contrabands forwarded this morning.

"J. C. WIGGINS,
"*Lieutenant and Signal Officer.*"

Very respectfully,

L. B. NORTON,
*Captain and Chief Signal Officer.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT:

From a report from a signal station at Garnett's Mountain it represents contrabands arriving last night report Stuart on the western slope of Thoroughfare Mountain. The general commanding desires that you will ascertain if there is any truth in the report, and be on the watch for any movement that might be attempted. Forward any information as soon as possible.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, *January* 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The reconnaissance sent out to Thoroughfare Mountain reports that there is no enemy in that neighborhood, nor is there any foundation for the report that Stuart is in that neighborhood.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*January* 28, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Col. P. HUEY,
*Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division:*

COLONEL: You will move with the available force of your brigade from your camp at 1 a. m. to-morrow, taking with you Egan's battery and the ambulances sent by the surgeon-in-chief of the division. You will move to Stevensburg and there remain until you receive

further orders. As it is not known that Beverly Ford will be practicable for artillery and ambulances at night, it will perhaps be better for you to cross at Rappahannock Station on the pontoon bridge.

If Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson is left in command of the camps of the Second Brigade, direct him to report to Lieutenant-Colonel Gardner, commanding First Brigade, who will command the division. If an officer senior to Lieutenant-Colonel Gardner is left in charge of your camps, that officer will command the division. Please send word to Captain Weir to-night what officer will be left in charge by you.

Very respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *January* 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that two 4-horse teams were captured by a party of guerrillas in the vicinity of Annandale this afternoon. We have not ascertained to whom they belonged. The drivers were also taken. Two guerrillas were seen near Fairfax Station this afternoon, and several parties are reported to have been seen between Fairfax Station and Devereux. Colonel Lowell has sent two scouting parties to-day, one to the neighborhood of Annandale and one through Centreville to Bull Run bridge. A detachment of cavalry was sent from this command this a. m. to scour the country between here and Alexandria. A deserter named Lyon, belonging to White's battalion, gave himself up to the pickets at Vienna to-day.

Respectfully,

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

---

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *January* 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Two wagons were captured to-day about 2 p. m. between Gooding's Tavern and Annandale. These wagons do not belong out here. Ascertain where they belonged and why they were there without an escort. It is said they belong to Greene. Is there any news in town? Cavalry will be sent to Annandale to-morrow from this command. Wells' men should all be out toward Occoquan.

C. C. AUGUR,
*Major-General.*

---

ALEXANDRIA, *January* 28, 1864.

*Assistant Adjutant-General Department of Washington:*

SIR: Lieutenant-Colonel Wells' cavalry has returned and reports having driven the guerrillas, numbering 9 men, some 7 miles southwest of Alexandria. They bring 3 horses they captured from the enemy.

Respectfully,

JNO. P. SLOUGH,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 28, 1864.

Col. J. A. MULLIGAN, *New Creek, Va.:*

Dispatch of 11.30 received. Hold the train at Burlington and send by messenger at once to Colonel Thoburn orders to retire by way of Greenland Gap to New Creek, if he is fully satisfied that he is approached by the reported rebel force.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 28, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Colonel Woolworth, with 800 men, left Martinsburg this evening. Will arrive at New Creek and report to you to-morrow morning about 7 a. m.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

I had cavalry in Strasburg yesterday. A rebel picket at Woodstock. Nothing nearer.

JOHN H. OLEY,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 28, 1864.
(Received 9.25 p. m.)

Brigadier-General RUCKER:

Where is the rest of Baker's cavalry? But 380 men have arrived. When shall we have the rest?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 29, 1864. (Received 12.45 p. m.)

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I respectfully and earnestly request that the regiments and companies of veteran volunteers furloughed from this army and ordered to report to the superintendent of the recruiting service in their relative States may be directed to return immediately on the expiration of their furloughs. If this is not done I fear it will not be possible to furlough before the season for active operations commences all the re-enlisted men now here awaiting furloughs, and those who will re-enlist if they can be furloughed, and unless the men can be promised furloughs it is not probable that we shall have more re-enlistments. More than half the veterans now absent left as three-fourths organizations and are beyond my control.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *January* 29, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Our troops moved this a. m. before daylight. We are left with a station guard of 100 men and one brigade 2 miles in my rear. No change in position of enemy. Some night signaling from Clark's Mountain, but they hide their foot-light.

J. C. WIGGINS,
*Signal Corps.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 29, 1864.

General GREGG,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

Directions were given upon the establishing of the signal station at Cedar Mountain 100 cavalry should be kept in the immediate vicinity, concealed if possible, as a permanent guard, in addition to the infantry guard of 100 men. The signal officer at Cedar Mountain reports this morning a station guard of only 100 men.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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UNOFFICIAL.] HDQRS. CAVALRY RESERVE BRIGADE,
*January* 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. MERRITT,
*Commanding First Division Cavalry, Culpeper:*

DEAR GENERAL: Since we have been deprived of the pleasure of judicially assassinating that deserter to-day, I shall endeavor to elevate my depressed spirits by literary composition. Now, general, when we were ruthlessly thrust out to the front, where we have since been kept at the point of the bayonet, we were promised a division of infantry to protect us. Well, they have never done it. These regiments of General Robinson's have been in Culpeper all the time, and last night about 1 o'clock I was aroused from my nocturnal repose by General Robinson's dispatch informing me that the Cedar Run brigade was to be withdrawn to-day, and that he wanted his pickets relieved by cavalry.

I understand that another division was ordered to relieve General Robinson's, but mean time that division had erected a theater in town, and of course it could not be thought of that they should go to the front and leave the theater behind. Now, we don't want their infernal old sharp-sticks at all, and I think we will be safer if they will withdraw the other brigade, so that if we are run back we won't have to wait until they pack up their duds and skeedaddle back to their present position.

They have left 100 men as a guard to the four blind signal officers on Cedar Mountain. It is reported that some camp-fires were seen yesterday in the woods north and west of Thoroughfare Mountain; perhaps that will account for the brigade changing front to rear so suddenly. The patent-sight man yesterday took four shots while the enemy were firing at Somerville Ford, and says he hit two certain. Mr. Emmons, assistant adjutant-general, will communicate to

you some views of mine with regard to the picket-line on our left, which I desire to have changed. Lieutenant Walker is still basking in the sunshine of beauty.

We still live, move, and have our being; somewhat muddy.

Very respectfully, yours,

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel, &c.*

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MITCHELL'S, *January* 29, 1864.

Captain BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

All quiet on the picket-lines except a few shots at Somerville Ford. The enemy continue the erection of breast-works and rifle-pits at that point. The brigade of infantry up on Cedar Mountain goes to Culpeper this morning, thus increasing my picket-line considerably.

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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CAVALRY HEADQUARTERS, *January* 29, 1864.

Col. J. P. TAYLOR,
*Second Division, Cavalry Corps:*

I have the honor to forward you a copy of a dispatch just received from Major-General Humphreys. The general desires that you will see that the orders contained therein are strictly carried out.

C. R. SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure.]

General GREGG,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I am instructed to invite your attention to the standing order from these headquarters requiring that all deserters and others of the enemy coming into our lines should be forwarded with all possible dispatch to these headquarters; that they should not be examined or be permitted to hold intercourse with any one, except so far as related to the security of the command into whose lines they come. Two sergeants, deserters from the Fifteenth Louisiana Infantry, are reported from the provost-marshal-general as having come into our lines near Morton's Ford on the evening of the 26th instant, and to have been received by him on the 28th just at midday. Sergt. S. E. Moore, Thirteenth Virginia Infantry, is reported by the provost-marshal-general to have come into our lines near Somerville Ford on the morning of the 27th instant and to have been received at headquarters on the 28th at midday. The major-general commanding directs that you ascertain where the delays occurred in sending forward those deserters, the causes of the delay and who is responsible for them, and that stringent means be adopted to prevent or avoid this in future.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
*January* 29, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report all quiet. A scouting party sent out in the direction of Bull Run bridge returned yesterday. They report that Mosby, with 60 men, passed in that vicinity the day before yesterday. They found a few scattering rebels near Centreville; otherwise everything was quiet.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., January* 29, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Div., Dept. of West Virginia:*

I am informed that last night at 8.30 p. m. a party of men, apparently rebel cavalry, went into the town of Shepherdstown and robbed the two stores of Snowden and Cumie of about $80 worth of goods. This information is given by David Bilmeyer, a citizen. One of our picket guards, while conducting a citizen between my outposts and those of General Averell, was surprised and taken off to the neighborhood of Bunker Hill by two persons clothed in our uniforms. They also took two of General Averell's men. All three of our men were released, but their horses and arms taken. I sent a party to pursue them, but they escaped.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Clarksburg, W. Va., January* 29, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: I have information that a school-mistress at Weston writes to her friends at Morgantown to the effect that she has been privately advised to leave Weston before spring, as there would certainly be a raid of rebels through there. This young lady is from Morgantown, and is a niece of George Evans, esq., the beef contractor. A contraband female belonging to old Governor Johnson, who has been living from the commencement of the war within the rebel lines, ran away from him some time since. She lately received a letter from one of her fellow-laborers in Dixie warning her to get away as far as possible from her present residence, between here and Phillippi, as it was determined by the rebels to come in this spring, and she would, if caught, be taken back.

James C. Morris, my most reliable scout, living between here and Buckhannon, informs me that the rebel sympathizers are showing signs of pertness, and are sure of a raid early this spring throughout West Virginia. He has, through female acquaintances, excellent opportunities of gaining information.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. WILKINSON,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Clarksburg, W. Va., January* 29, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: John Lorentz, of Bulltown, who was arrested by request of Governor Boreman as a hostage for Mr. Mollahan, of Braxton County, was sent to Richmond to get the latter released. He has returned with Mr. Mollahan, having effected the object of his mission.

He says Echols' forces, or part of them, occupy Lewisburg; Jackson is at Warm Springs; his forces number some 1,500 men. He don't know the strength of Echols' forces. He tells the same old tale of high prices in the Confederacy; he says provisions are plenty there, but at awful figures in their money. Paid $17 for board per day. Reports 20,000 Union prisoners in and about Richmond. Saw Captain Rowand, of First Virginia Cavalry, and also saw Charley Russell and other rebel runaways from West Virginia. Reports that the calculation in Richmond is that the rebel conscription act will bring in 70,000 troops from Virginia alone.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,
N. WILKINSON,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, January* 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

DEAR SIR: I have the pleasure to acknowledge your letter of the 26th instant, with the accompanying plans of operations for the ensuing campaign. They have been very carefully considered by this Department, but until a report from Major-General Grant, which is shortly expected, shall be received a final answer cannot be given. Your views impress me favorably, if they can be made to harmonize with other operations, so as to secure success, in regard to which you will receive information in season and before the requisite forces will probably be raised. In regard to the North Carolina operations, if your plans should be adopted, there will be no difficulty in arranging the command. The department is only temporarily attached to that of Virginia, and can very easily be restored to its former condition.

In respect to your suggestions as to recruiting your force, the following views are entertained by this Department:

First. The condition of things in East Tennessee renders it absolutely impossible to withdraw from that region at present the regiments belonging to the Ninth Corps.

Second. When the recruiting of the Ninth Corps shall be completed it will be my desire to have the Third Division form a component part of the organization, if the military condition at that time will admit, of which I at present see no reason to doubt.

Third. The attachment of Colonel Howard's marine artillery and of the light-draught gun-boats will depend upon the plan of operations that shall be adopted, and the determination of that question necessarily awaits the decision upon the operations to be embraced in the campaign.

Fourth. The organization of new regiments in the Ninth Corps, for reasons which have heretofore been explained to you, should be dependent upon the old regiments from the respective States of Maine, Vermont, and New York being filled up. Experience has shown the utter impracticability of filling up old regiments while the organization of new regiments is going on, and you, I believe, concur with every other commander in the field that the efficiency of the army depends more upon filling up the old regiments than upon any other measure. Every energy, therefore, should be directed to that first great object, and the attention should not be withdrawn for a single moment to any other plan or system, and least of all the system of raising new regiments until the old regiments are filled up.

Fifth. Your plan for raising new regiments by company organizations, reserving the appointment of the field officers until the absolute organization of the regiments, is favorably considered by the Department as a suitable method to be adopted when new organizations come to be authorized.

Sixth. In respect to the organization of colored troops, the Department will be glad to have any assistance you can render. Their organization, however, is, under an act of Congress, entirely distinct from that of State volunteers, and hence they are only organized by specific authority from the proper bureau. No objection occurs to me in regard to the organization of a division of colored troops from those that are authorized to be raised in New England, after the regimental organization shall have been completed.

This, I believe, answers the specific points presented by your communication.

You need no new assurance of the confidence reposed in you and in your energetic ability in organizing, transporting, and operating military forces by the President and this Department. Every assistance that can be given by the Department consistently with the rules and regulations which have been found by experience to be absolutely essential for the service will be afforded to you, and the Department relies with confidence upon the success that will attend your efforts in the speedy organization of your forces. The sooner that is done, of course, the earlier you will be able to go into the field and the more important will be the duties assigned to you.

Very truly, yours,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

P. S.—Please report frequently—at least three times a week—your progress in recruiting.

E. M. S.

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FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 29, 1864.
(Received 7.15 p. m.)

Major-General AUGUR,
*Commanding Department of Washington:*

Two hundred and eighty-one of Baker's cavalry came down to me for picket duty. These are without tents. I am anxious, therefore, for the rest who have the tents. When will they come?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 30, 1864.

Major-General SYKES,
*Commanding Fifth Corps:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 18th instant, in reply to the communication addressed to you from these headquarters under date of January 16, respecting depredations upon the trains while passing over the road, was duly received and laid before the commanding general, who instructs me to reply as follows: It was not the design of the commanding general to reflect upon the discipline of your corps generally, which, he is well aware, is not at all inferior to that of other portions of the army; but when it was reported to him that it had become a practice for the troops especially charged with the important duty of guarding the railroad to plunder the trains, and it was proposed to establish the allegations by sworn statements, he felt justified in characterizing in unfavorable terms the discipline of the particular commands thus charged with neglecting their duties.

The commanding general is, however, glad to learn that the statements in relation to the robbery of public supplies from passing trains were exaggerated, certainly so with regard to the portion of the road guarded by the Fifth Corps, and he is well satisfied that the road this side of Bull Run has at no period during the war been protected in so efficient a manner as it is at the present time. All the papers forwarded by you upon the subject of railroad depredations have been referred to the chief quartermaster, as requested.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 30, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Colonel Mulligan reports a messenger just in from Petersburg. The wagon train attacked near Williamsport to-day. Fighting since 3 p. m. Hold your cavalry in readiness to move at a moment's notice. I have ordered Colonel Oley, commanding Averell's brigade, to hold two regiments in readiness subject to your orders also. I will hear something further, I presume, by morning. The force is believed to be Rosser's, Imboden's, and Gilmor's.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 30. 1864—8 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

That is right. Push on to the relief of our troops as rapidly as possible. Keep me advised by couriers.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *January* 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Your telegram to Colonel Campbell has just been shown me. Why do you think it advisable to send a regiment to the Junction? I suggest that the regiment had better not move until you are further advised, which you will undoubtedly be by the time you reach Burlington.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 30, 1864—10 p. m.

Colonel OLEY,
*Commanding, &c., Martinsburg:*

Fighting reported at Petersburg to-day. Hold your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Any orders you may receive from Sullivan you will obey until further orders. He may require your force, or a portion of it, to proceed with his.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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BEVERLY, *January* 30, 1864.

General KELLEY:

DEAR SIR: I have taken the liberty to address you personally, to give you a semi-official letter. I have addressed an official letter to you of the same date of this, and forwarded through the regular channel. I thought that you would desire to know of the news from the front in this part of your command. Deserters and refugees are coming in daily. I sent to Wheeling 21 day before yesterday. Five have just come in within the last twenty-four hours, 2 of them on horseback. They left McDowell on the night of the 26th; both are quite intelligent; they say the report with them before leaving was that the Federal army was advancing up the valley, and that a rebel force of 17,000 was between Strasburg and New Market, under Early. Bill Jackson, they state, is under arrest for cowardice at or near Covington, during the last raid of General Averell. They also state that General Averell is a terror to them; more so than ever Stonewall Jackson was to us. A rumor of his approach is equal to death to them. His departure from West Virginia would be joyful news to them. I am also informed that great preparations are being made for a spring campaign into this State in the spring. One of them remarked that he heard some officers talking in Jackson's camp, near Warm Springs, that if we succeeded in capturing their party out now that we would make a good haul. I learn this evening that this must have referred to Captain Spriggs, of Braxton. He is there, I learn, stealing horses. Colonel Arnett, of the Twentieth Virginia Cavalry, formerly from Marion County, wrote an article, which was published in the Richmond papers, that "they must and would retake and hold all of the country to the banks of the blue Ohio" the next season. This article was read at dress-parade. All deserters, without one exception, describe the condition of things in Dixie, in front of

us here, worse than confusion. I am informed that it is only those men in the border counties that ran away at the commencement of the war that desire to still prolong the war. I am assured by these poor creatures that Jackson will not have 200 men in his command by the 1st of May if something is not done for the good of the Confederacy. The rolls are called four times a day to keep their men from deserting. All say that there must be suffering before harvesting. I have written to you for instructions concerning these poor misguided creatures. All come in under the President's amnesty proclamation; some have property, such as horses and small-arms. What must be done with the men and their property? I have been so far turning their property over to the quartermaster, and instructing him to give receipts for the same, stating the value of the same, and the men are forwarded to Wheeling. So far all have been conscripts, and have not a cent of money. Their case is desperate. Bill Jackson, with all his command but two companies, is at Warm Springs; those are at Camp Northwest, 2 miles east of Huntersville. No force at the Little Levels. I have sent the scouts to the Dry Fork of Cheat; they have not returned; was to have been in this evening. I also have a scout to the top of the Cheat. I also learn by all the deserters that the saltpeter-works on Black Creek, above Gatewood's, that General Averell destroyed, are re-opened, and now worked by 100 slaves, under Captain Heaton. Over 300 pounds niter are made here daily now. I am quite sure a detachment from this command could try and go there and capture this force. The works are not guarded by any military force. I am sure we have men that would delight in the expedition. I should have addressed General Averell if he had been at Martinsburg, but as he was away I thought it proper to address you. Hoping all is satisfactory,

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. S. HALL,
*Lieutenant-Colonel Tenth West Virginia Infantry.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH WEST VIRGINIA INFANTRY,
*Sir John's, January* 30, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

CAPTAIN: When the scout reported to me yesterday he called the place by, I suppose, the familiar name of Salem. I took it to be a village. Upon inquiry this morning I found it to be a church. The location I explained by telegram this morning. On the receipt of the intelligence I sent out 25 infantry, under a commissioned officer, with three days' rations. This morning a party of 25, with a commissioned officer and three days' rations, starts from Rockwell's Run, and a similar number similarly officered and rationed starts from No. 12, to go different directions, to look after parties of rebel soldiers that are known to be in this country. This number will be kept out constantly in different parties, unless otherwise ordered.

Very respectfully, &c.,

M. McCASLIN,
*Colonel Fifteenth West Virginia Infantry.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 30, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 11 a m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

Where is Baker's cavalry? Two hundred and eighty-one men of it landed at Yorktown two days ago; the rest have not been heard from.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *January* 30, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 6.10 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

The rebels are massing troops in Richmond. This is news by flag-of-truce boat. I will send copy of telegram by mail of news by a refugee to the same purpose.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, January* 31, 1864—8.45 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
*Philadelphia:*

I regret to learn your continued and serious illness, and am anxious to know the present condition of your health.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 31, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 11.15 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

The force in the Valley of the Shenandoah and its disposition, according to the latest information received here, does not indicate an intention to attack the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Other information from the valley will be received Tuesday morning.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 31, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Have you seen the dispatch of General Kelley? In the contingency of Early attacking his whole line, he recommends a movement from here. I consider such a move impracticable. Please give your views.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

CULPEPER, VA., *January* 31, 1864.

Col. C. R. SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

An expedition of the First Brigade sent out to the neighborhood of Madison Court-House last night captured 12 rebels and killed 1; also captured some horses. Will report more fully. Colonel Gibbs reports four guns put into position at Somerville Ford in the last forty-eight hours. All quiet in the lines.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MITCHELL'S, VA., *January* 31, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General MERRITT,
*Commanding First Cavalry Division:*

Captain Gordon, with his regiment, is coming into his camp. He has sent me 6 prisoners of Virginia cavalry, who will be sent up to Culpeper in the morning. He has not yet reported, but I will send by telegraph anything that he may communicate.

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY,
*January* 31, 1864.

Capt. T. C. BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to instructions, I proceeded last night at 12 m. to school-house; was there met by Colonel Chapman, of the Third Indiana Cavalry, at 2 o'clock p. m. I then proceeded in the direction of Mount Carmel Church, it being understood that Colonel Chapman and myself should meet at that point. I waited in the vicinity of Captain Strother's house two hours, in order to give him time, as he was to cross Robertson River. After searching Captain Strother's house carefully, I proceeded at early dawn in the direction of Mount Carmel, where I captured 6 of Captain Strother's men. I stayed at the church until 12 o'clock m., but Colonel Chapman did not come up. I did not think I would be justified in staying at that point any longer, and after making a thorough examination of the country, I returned to this camp by the way of James City, arriving here at 5 o'clock p. m. From what I could learn, it appears that this Mount Carmel Church has been occupied by a few men. There are no indications of a large camp having been there. In addition to 6 prisoners (men) belonging to the Fourth Virginia Cavalry, I captured 2 horses and a wagon belonging to sutlers, and 3 horses and a mule.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. A. GORDON,
*Captain Second U. S. Cavalry, Commanding the Regiment.*

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ENGINEER BRIGADE,
*Rappahannock Station, Va., January* 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
*Commanding Engineer Brigade:*

GENERAL: During the past month there has been little in our operations worthy of note. Our men have been principally employed in work upon winter quarters, fencing and flooring corrals, corduroy roads, and repairs and renewals in pontoon trains. On the afternoon of the 4th instant I received orders to take up the lower pontoon bridge at this point, move my trains to headquarters Army of the Potomac, have the bridge at Welford's Ford ready to take up after the trains passed, and report in person at headquarters. After seeing the tents struck of all the command except one company, the teams hitched up, and the work of dismantling the lower bridge commenced, I proceeded to headquarters. There I found that it was proposed to send a force of 10,000 men (6,000 infantry and 4,000 cavalry) over the mountains to Front Royal, to operate against a force of the enemy supposed to be in Shenandoah Valley, and that the bridge train was required for crossing Shenandoah River near Front Royal. Nothing was decided, however, in relation to the movement, and as it was only intended that the trains should be ready, I immediately sent back word for the men to finish taking up the lower bridge and return to camp with the trains, keeping everything ready for starting the trains at short notice. It was finally arranged before I left headquarters that if the movement was ordered I should only furnish the trains with the transportation and everything necessary for the effective operations of the quartermaster's department, and that Captain Mendell with his men should proceed to Front Royal in charge of the trains. Everything pertaining to this train was for some days kept ready for an immediate start, but the movement was not ordered. We have still some work to do upon our trains to put them in perfect order, and some additional work in camp and in the corrals. When this is done I hope to be able to resume our drills in infantry tactics and sapping and mining.

Very respectfully,

IRA SPAULDING,
*Major, Commanding Detachment.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 31, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

General Kilpatrick reports that the infantry pickets of the Second and Third Corps will not permit his messengers to the cavalry pickets to pass the infantry picket-line on the main roads leading to the front with his pass; that all his people have been stopped this morning. The commanding general directs that the infantry pickets be instructed to pass messengers, picket details of cavalry, &c., out and in on the main roads leading to the front when they have the pass of the commander of the cavalry division, and to pass in when they have the pass of the commander of the cavalry pickets.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

*Extract from inspection report of the Sixth Army Corps for January, 1864, by Lieut. Col. J. Ford Kent, Assistant Inspector-General.*

The following are among the remarks made by the inspector of the Artillery Brigade:

I would call attention to the large percentage of men employed on daily duty, and suggest that if negroes for teamsters could be supplied the artillery, a sufficient number of men would be relieved in this brigade alone to handle a four-gun battery.

Respectfully submitted for the information of the commanding general.

GEO. W. GETTY,
*Brigadier-General, Acting Inspector-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 17, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the chief of artillery for remark.
By command of Major-General Meade:

S. F. BARSTOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 18, 1864.

The want of men in the artillery brigades is severely felt. Most of the batteries of the army require details from the infantry to serve the guns. No details should be made from any battery for teamsters, except perhaps for the company wagons. There should be attached to artillery brigades one or more battalions of foot artillery, to serve as guards, escorts, supports, working parties on intrenchments when necessary, and to supply details for service with batteries when the number of cannoneers is reduced too low for the efficient service of the guns. Details for these purposes are now made from the infantry, to the injury of the latter and the creation of ill-feeling. Until sufficient artillery troops are furnished for artillery duties, as in other armies, the evil complained of will be unavoidable. The Sixth Corps is not singular in this respect. The evil is felt in all the others in a greater or less degree. I shall present a report on this and kindred subjects in a day or two. In the mean time I recommend that hired men, white or black, be furnished, if possible, to the Sixth Corps.

Respectfully returned to headquarters Army of the Potomac.

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*January* 31, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The commanders of the Second and Third Corps will be directed to instruct their pickets to permit the cavalry to pass through on the main roads when they have passes from the division commander, passing out, and the commanders of the cavalry pickets passing in.

The major-general commanding requests that General Kilpatrick will report which roads his cavalry must use in passing out and in; they must be reduced to the smallest number practicable. He will also report the cases of stopping his messengers, &c., that occurred to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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BEALETON, VA., *January* 31, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Colonel TAYLOR:

I received information through a negro, who came to my lines for that purpose, the enemy contemplate a raid on the railroad between Warrenton Junction and Catlett's, some time between now and Tuesday night. Their force is under Captain Steel, and about 125 strong.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. H. WILSON,
*Captain Company F, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 31, 1864—5 a. m.
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Mulligan reports that a wagon train going to Colonel Thoburn, at Petersburg, guarded by 800 men, was attacked near Williamsport, at 3 p. m. yesterday, by Rosser's brigade and Gilmor's command, and, after a severe fight of four hours, our forces were repulsed and the wagon train captured. Colonel Snider, of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry, who was in command of the escort, reports his loss in killed and wounded at about 80, and he thinks the enemy's loss much greater. Colonel Mulligan has moved out from New Creek to relieve Thoburn. The enemy's force was estimated at 2,000, all mounted, with four guns, and it is believed he has more force behind. I have ordered Sullivan to send a cavalry force at once, via Winchester and Wardensville, toward Moorefield, to recapture the train if possible, and assist in relieving Thoburn. This may be a part of a plan to assail my whole line from here to Harper's Ferry by General Early. If so, may I suggest that a movement of a force from General Meade's right to Luray or Port Republic would be of great importance? I have deemed it of the utmost importance to hold Petersburg heretofore, in order to prevent the enemy from occupying the South Branch Valley and drawing from it supplies, which are abundant, as well as to prevent him from enforcing the conscription laws; but I fear I shall be compelled to withdraw my force, as this is the second wagon train we have lost. This one, unfortunately, was loaded with commissary stores.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

WASHINGTON, *January* 31, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

A copy of your telegram of this morning has been sent to the commanding general of the Army of the Potomac. Before sending out supply trains a thorough reconnaissance should be made, and in cases of danger a large guard must precede and accompany it.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 31, 1864.
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Mulligan reports from Burlington that a courier has just met him with a dispatch from Colonel Thoburn, advising him that reliable information had been received at Petersburg that Early was approaching that place with a large force, and that he (Thoburn) would leave Petersburg for New Creek this 2 a. m. This dispatch was dated 2 p. m. yesterday, but as the attack of Rosser on the train took place at 3 p. m. on the road that Thoburn intended to take, Colonel Mulligan thinks he has fallen back on the Seneca route into the mountains. I am ill-prepared to repel a large force. My command, always much scattered, is now much weakened by furloughs granted to veterans.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., January* 31, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

General Wheaton's brigade and the several detached regiments sent to Harper's Ferry are still there, subject to your orders. By moving your troops to the point threatened you will be abundantly able to cope with Early's forces, unless they have been greatly increased. Keep me advised of the condition of things.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *January* 31, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 12.30 a. m., February 1.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

A dispatch just received from Colonel Mulligan informs me that Thoburn left Petersburg last night by mountain road, and will reach him in safety to-night with all his men and material. Early's forces attacked and shelled his camp and works at daylight this morning, Thoburn then being 8 miles distant on his way to New Creek. Wheaton's brigade is reduced by furloughs to about 900 men, and, having already taken two mounted regiments from Sullivan, I do

not deem it prudent to further reduce the force at Harper's Ferry. Thoburn's force being safe, and added to Mulligan's, with the mounted force from Sullivan, will, I trust, enable us to check Early's advance.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—11 p. m.

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

A deserter just came in to Colonel Mulligan; reports Early's force to be three brigades of cavalry, two of infantry, with artillery. I fear the wires will be cut to-night. If so, please correspond direct with General Sullivan.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—4 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Colonel Mulligan met the wagon-train escort at Ridgeville. They had a severe fight with Rosser's force; lost about 80 killed and wounded; enemy's loss much greater. Lost the wagon train almost entirely. I must now make a strong and quick effort to relieve Thoburn. Send what available cavalry you have with two of Averell's regiments, via Winchester and Wardensville, toward Moorefield. They should take ten days' rations of hard bread, sugar, coffee, and salt. The enemy's force engaged was between 1,000 and 2,000, but it was believed a much larger force was behind. The enemy were all mounted, with four guns. Send Ewing's battery with the troops from Martinsburg. Be on the alert. This may be a combined movement of General Lee's.

B F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Colonel Oley reports that Ewing cannot take but three guns for want of horses. Send a section of one of your batteries. Nothing further from Mulligan.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

A dispatch just received from Colonel Mulligan reports a courier from Colonel Thoburn with a dispatch dated at 2 p. m. yesterday, in which he says that he has reliable information that Early left Harrisonburg on last Wednesday for the South Branch Valley, and

that Rosser and Imboden were to accompany him. If this is true, the force capturing the train was the advance of Early. Thoburn advised Mulligan he would leave Petersburg at 2 a. m. for New Creek; if he did, I fear he is cut off. If Early is coming into this valley I may require more infantry for a few days. If so, be ready.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

A dispatch from Mulligan advises me that Thoburn evacuated Petersburg last night, and is safe with men and material. Early's forces attacked and shelled his camp and works at daylight this a. m. The rebels burnt a large portion of the train. It is rumored to-night there is a rebel force in or near Romney. I fear they intend to cut the railroad and telegraph below here. As Thoburn is safe, you will send a messenger to-night and direct the officer in command of your cavalry to go from Wardensville by the Grassy Lick road to Romney, instead of Moorefield. By that route he will be able to protect the railroad better, and will be within striking distance of my force.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—11 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *Ridgeville:*

Colonel Thoburn's dispatch was dated before he was aware our forces had been attacked. Can he find any road to reach the west side of Knobly without encountering Rosser's force? I send the old Ringgolds on a scout up Patterson's Creek. They will reach you this evening. Have ordered four mounted regiments to move, by way of Winchester and Wardensville, toward Moorefield.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—4 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

I presume you are aware there is a road from Williamsport to Ridgeville along east base of Knobly Mountain. This road you will give your personal attention. I also suggest you send an infantry scout on Knobly with instructions to get a good lookout and report to you as soon as any force shows itself in the valley above Burlington. Maulsby's battery is on the way to you from Clarksburg.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—4 a. m.

Colonel OLEY, *Martinsburg:*

Colonel Thoburn's wagon train was attacked and captured yesterday after a severe fight. We lost about 80 men killed and wounded.

The enemy's loss much greater. We lost the wagon train almost entirely. Have ordered General Sullivan to send a force to recapture the train and assist in relieving Thoburn. He will require two of your regiments and Ewing's battery.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *January* 31, 1864—8 a. m.

Colonel OLEY,
*Martinsburg:*

General Sullivan will send a section of one of his batteries with Captain Ewing's three guns. Advise the general what regiment you send. Get off as soon as possible, if not already gone.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, January* 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

Scout sent by your orders to Salem Church and Unger's Store has returned. Nothing was seen or learned of importance.

JOHN H. OLEY,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 3D DIV. CAV., DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Charleston, W. Va., January* 31, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel ALEXANDER,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cavalry Bureau, Washington, D. C.:*

SIR: In accordance with General Orders, No. 237, War Department, series of 1863, I have the honor to make the following report of my command of mounted troops for the month of January, 1864:

The command is generally in good condition. The cavalry and mounted infantry are fully supplied with horses, arms, and equipments. The artillery stand in need of new caissons and gun carriages, requisitions for which have been forwarded, properly approved, to the Chief of the Ordnance Bureau. Requisitions have been promptly made for every article necessary to fit the command for active duty. I regret to state that in some cases much delay occurs in getting the requisitions filled. Since my last report no movement has been made by my command in force. Numerous detachments of from one to three squadrons have been sent out for scouting purposes. The average number of miles made per man by my command is 200. The horses have been well fed and groomed, and well shod. The rations have been a full supply of hay and grain, the grain ration being corn and oats, mixed. A large number of the brigade are now on furlough as veterans. The regiments are being rapidly reorganized as veteran troops. Recruits are coming in rapidly.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*General, Commanding Cavalry.*

*ITINERARY OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.**

CAVALRY CORPS.†

*Second Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Josiah H. Kellogg, Seventeenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

*January* 1 *to* 31.—Picketed on the Sperryville pike, Madison and James City roads.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. David McM. Gregg.*

*January* 1.—Headquarters division at Bealeton. Division ordered out toward Winchester to intercept rebel General Early. Col. J. P. Taylor commanding Second Division.

*January* 2.—General Gregg and Lieutenant Arrowsmith, aide-de-camp, returned from leave of absence.

*January* 3.—The division, while on return from Shenandoah, received orders to return; order countermanded same day.

*January* 4.—The division at Warrenton and headquarters at Bealeton.

*January* 5.—All quiet.

*January* 6.—Division headquarters moved to Warrenton and established at the house of rebel ex-Governor Smith, on Sulphur Springs road. First Brigade at Warrenton; Second Brigade between Warrenton and Warrenton Junction.

*January* 7.—Reserve picket Third Pennsylvania Cavalry captured; 6 or 7 wounded, 40 horses captured, with equipments and arms of men and horses.

*January* 8 *to* 31.—All quiet; nothing unusual transpiring; scouting parties sent out daily.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. John P. Taylor, First Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

The brigade has been lying in the vicinity of Warrenton, Va., during the month, doing picket duty and scouting the surrounding country. Nothing further of importance to record, except a scout to Front Royal on January 1. The men enduring great hardships from the excessive cold, but succeeded in capturing a 4-horse team and a number of the enemy.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. J. Irvin Gregg, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

SIXTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA.

*January* 1.—Moved out of camp near Bealeton at 8 a. m.; marched via Warrenton to Orleans and encamped; two squadrons on picket.

*January* 2.—Marched to Front Royal via Chester Gap; encamped for the night.

*January* 3.—Marched via Manassas Gap to near Salem and encamped.

* As reported on returns of the several commands for January, 1864.
† Commanded by Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton.

*January* 4.—Marched to Warrenton and encamped.
*January* 5.—In camp.
*January* 6.—Joined regimental headquarters and balance of regiment at Turkey Run, and went into camp.
*January 7 to* 26.—In camp (Turkey Run) building quarters, and picketing between First Brigade and Thirteenth Pennsylvania.
*January* 27, 4 *p. m.*—Received orders to saddle up and be under arms.
*January* 28, 10 *a. m.*—Unsaddled.
*January* 28 *to* 30.—In camp.
*January* 31.—One hundred men and 3 commissioned officers went on picket to near Morrisville.

THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA.

*January* 1.—Regiment left camp (Bealeton Station) on a five days' scout; night of the 1st encamped at Orleans.
*January* 2.—Moved to Front Royal; thence to Salem Church, and encamped for the night.
*January* 4.—Marched to Warrenton, and remained in camp until the 6th; then left for Turkey Run, where regiment went into winter quarters, performing picket duty since.
*January* 27.—Sent one squadron to picket on Morrisville road, near Bealeton Station; relieved 30th by Sixteenth Pennsylvania.

EIGHTH PENNSYLVANIA.

*January* 1.—Regiment left camp near Bealeton Station and marched to near Orleans, bivouacking for the night.
*January* 2.—Marched to near Front Royal and bivouacked.
*January* 3.—Started back, and marched to Salem.
*January* 4.—Left Salem at daybreak and marched to near Warrenton and went into camp.
*January* 5.—Men with unserviceable horses, &c., joined the command.
*January* 6.—Marched 1½ miles toward Warrenton Junction and went into camp; regiment made two scouts since reaching here, one to Sulphur Springs by way of Fayetteville, and one to Auburn and vicinity.

SECOND PENNSYLVANIA.

*January* 1 *to* 29.—The regiment encamped near Bealeton, picketing the Morrisville road.
*January* 29.—Moved to near Warrenton.
*January* 30.—Five re-enlisted companies started home on thirty-five days' furlough (223 men).

FIRST MAINE.

*January* 1.—Regiment moved to Warrenton with brigade, and, joined by First Brigade there, proceeded to near Orleans and encamped for the night.
*January* 2.—Moved at daylight, and passing through Chester Gap encamped for the night at Front Royal.
*January* 3.—Moved to near Manassas Gap and halted, detailing

111 men, commanded by Captain Taylor, to make a forced march to Warrenton to bear dispatches. This detail captured several prisoners and horses on the route, arriving at Warrenton that night. The residue of the regiment, forming the advance of the division, moved through Manassas Gap, also capturing several prisioners, and encamped with the division at Oak Hill.

*January* 4.—Moved to near Warrenton, on the New Baltimore pike, and remaining there until January 6; then moved with the brigade to Turkey Run, and went into winter quarters. Since arriving at their present camp the daily outpost detailed has been 1 commissioned officer and from 23 to 31 men.

*January* 13.—Sent scouting party of 100 men, commanded by Major Thaxter, to Fayetteville and Foxville.

*January* 17.—Sent scouting party of 40 men, commanded by Captain Chadbourne, to Auburn and vicinity.

*January* 23.—Sent scouting party of 50 men to Greenwich and vicinity, commanded by Lieutenant Carson. Owing to the vicinity of numerous guerrilla bands and scouting parties of the enemy, the demand for escorts to wagons has been unusually large, and the poor condition of animals in the regiment when it first arrived in camp rendered it the more difficult to fill such details when specially needed. One hundred and ninety-one recruits have been received by the regiment during the month, and 15 men have been discharged for various reasons; 216 men have re-enlisted as veteran volunteers, 49 of whom have been individually furloughed and sent to Maine.

### TENTH NEW YORK.

*January* 1.—Regiment doing picket duty along the railroad between Warrenton and Warrenton Junction.

*January* 7.—One man missing, supposed taken by guerrillas. Regiment doing picket duty until the 15th, when the lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, quartermaster, regimental commissary of subsistence, adjutant, surgeon, and 274 men started on train for State of New York to report to the Governor, they having re-enlisted for three years as veteran volunteers.

*January* 21.—Commenced building corduroy for horses to stand upon; condition of regiment good, both men and horses. The men that did not re-enlist taking care of the horses of veterans during their absence.

### *First Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry E. Davies, jr.*

This command is doing picket duty on the extreme left and front of the army, the vedettes stretching from Germanna Ford, on the Rapidan, across the neck to Kemper's Dam, on the Rappahannock, patrolling the roads to Ellis' and Ely's Fords.

*January* 12.—The patrol of 6 men to Ellis' Ford was attacked by concealed guerrillas in dense pine woods and 5 captured.

*January* 17.—The patrol of 1 sergeant and 7 men returning from Ellis' Ford were surrounded by the enemy in ambuscade and 7 men captured. At the same time the patrol of 1 sergeant and 8 men returning from Ely's Ford were fired upon from both sides of the road and rear by concealed dismounted men in dense pine woods; 1 man killed, 2 wounded, and 2 captured.

*January* 22.—The patrol of 1 commissioned officer and 30 men were attacked going to Ellis' Ford, by a party of dismounted men in ambush. Loss, 1 man killed, 6 wounded, and 4 captured.

*Cavalry Reserve Brigade, commanded by Col. Alfred Gibbs, First New York Dragoons.*

The brigade has been encamped near Mitchell's Station, Va., picketing the Rapidan during the whole month.

FIRST ARMY CORPS.*

*First Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Henry A. Morrow, Twenty-fourth Michigan Infantry.*

*January* 3.—The Seventh Wisconsin Volunteers left for Wisconsin, in accordance with paragraph IX, Special Orders, No. 2, January 2, headquarters Army of the Potomac, over three-fourths of the regiment having re-enlisted as veteran volunteers.

*January* 4.—The Seventy-sixth New York Volunteers transferred to the First Brigade by General Orders, No. 1, of January 4, First Division headquarters.

*January* 7.—Over three-fourths of the Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers having re-enlisted as veteran volunteers, they left for Wisconsin, per paragraph III, Special Orders, No. 4, January 5, 1864, headquarters Army of the Potomac.

*January* 11.—The Nineteenth Indiana Volunteers left for State, in accordance with paragraph I, Special Orders, No. 8, January 9, headquarters Army of the Potomac.

*January* 14.—Moved brigade headquarters from Catalpa Mansion, near Culpeper, to its present location on the Sperryville pike, about three-fourths of a mile from Culpeper; brigade reviewed as part of division on the 29th instant.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John C. Robinson.*

*January* 3.—Changed camp to Mitchell's Station.

*January* 29.—Moved headquarters to Culpeper Court-House, where we are now encamped.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Thomas F. McCoy, One hundred and seventh Pennsylvania Infantry.*

The brigade has been performing outpost duty at Mitchell's Station, Va., during the month.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Charles Wheelock, Ninety-seventh New York Infantry.*

*January* 2.—The brigade left Culpeper for Cedar Mountain, where they remained doing picket duty until January 28, when they received orders to move to Culpeper, where they now remain.

* Commanded by Maj. Gen. John Newton.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John R. Kenly.*

Encamped near Culpeper Court-House, Va. No change of position has been made during the month.

*First Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Langhorne Wister, One hundred and fiftieth Pennsylvania Infantry.*

Brigade is now in winter quarters and doing picket duty. No change of position has been made during the month.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.*

*January* 1.—In camp at Stevensburg; corps headquarters at Hansborough House.

*January* 5.—The Sixty-sixth and Fifty-ninth New York Regiments furloughed as veteran volunteers.

*January* 9.—The Eighty-eighth Battalion New York Volunteers and Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery, furloughed as veteran volunteers.

*Fourth Brigade, First Division, commanded by Maj. Leman W. Bradley, Sixty-fourth New York Infantry.*

At close of last return this command was encamped near Germanna Ford, some 5 miles in advance of the main camps.

*January* 7.—By direction from superior headquarters, we changed camp to a position some mile or more to the rear, in order to prevent the practicability of flanking by the enemy, which makes our present camp near Sheppard's Grove, Va.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. R. Penn Smith, Seventy-first Pennsylvania Infantry.*

*January* 1 *to* 31.—In camp near Stevensburg, Va.

*January* 1 *to* 8.—Commanded by Col. A. F. Devereux, Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers.

*January* 8 *to* 31.—Commanded by Col. R. Penn Smith, Seventy-first Pennsylvania Volunteers.

THIRD ARMY CORPS.†

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. J. H. Hobart Ward.*

*January* 9.—The division began moving its camp from near Brandy Station to the farm of Mr. Rixey, about 3½ miles from Brandy Station and 2½ from Culpeper. The last brigade moved on the 13th. Nothing of importance since that time.

*Third Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Benjamin F. Smith, One hundred and twenty-sixth Ohio Infantry.*

Picket duty has been regularly performed by detachments from the brigade during the month. No change in headquarters or camps of the brigade, and nothing worthy of note has occurred since the last return.

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*Commanded by Maj. Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren.
†Commanded by Maj. Gen. William H. French.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS.*

Headquarters of the corps near Rappahannock Station, Va.; corps engaged in guarding the Orange and Alexandria Railroad from Rappahannock bridge to Bull Run, and the line of the river from Norman's to Freeman's Fords. Three regiments are stationed at Alexandria, guarding trains.

SIXTH ARMY COPS.†

In camp near Welford's Ford during the month.

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*Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of January, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters *a* | 93 | 954 | 1,230 | 2,387 | ..... | ..... |
| Engineer troops | 29 | 911 | 1,279 | 1,877 | ..... | ..... |
| Artillery Reserve | 60 | 1,884 | 2,167 | 2,696 | 8 | 44 |
| Horse Artillery | 26 | 1,222 | 1,403 | 1,637 | ..... | 60 |
| First Army Corps | 470 | 10,519 | 12,857 | 20,361 | ..... | 28 |
| Second Army Corps | 521 | 9,906 | 11,719 | 22,183 | ..... | 31 |
| Third Army Corps | 616 | 14,025 | 16,924 | 28,064 | ..... | 46 |
| Fifth Army Corps | 495 | 9,477 | 11,125 | 19,408 | ..... | 32 |
| Sixth Army Corps | 435 | 10,138 | 12,632 | 24,015 | ..... | 40 |
| Cavalry Corps | 428 | 10,801 | 13,960 | 25,831 | ..... | ..... |
| Total | 3,173 | 69,837 | 85,296 | 148,454 | 8 | 281 |

*a* Including camp guards, orderlies, provost guard, and signal corps.

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*Organization of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, January* 31, 1864.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

PROVOST GUARD.

Brig. Gen. MARSENA R. PATRICK.

80th New York (20th Militia), Col. Theodore B. Gates.
93d New York, Maj. Samuel McConihe.
114th Pennsylvania, Maj. Edward R. Bowen.
1st Maryland Cavalry, Capt. Joseph H. Cook.
Cavalry detachments.‡

GUARDS AND ORDERLIES.

Oneida (New York) Cavalry, Capt. Daniel P. Mann.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. LEMUEL B. NORTON.

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*Commanded by Maj. Gen. George Sykes.
†Commanded by Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick.
‡From First Maine and Second, Fifth, and Sixth United States.

ORDNANCE DETACHMENT.

Lieut. MORRIS SCHAFF.

ENGINEER BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. BENHAM.

15th New York, Maj. William A. Ketchum.
50th New York, Col. William H. Pettes.

BATTALION U. S. ENGINEERS.

Capt. CHARLES N. TURNBULL.

## FIRST ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN NEWTON.

ESCORT.

Cavalry detachments,* Capt. Robert A. Robinson.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JAMES C. RICE.

*First Brigade.*

Col. HENRY A. MORROW.

19th Indiana, Col. Samuel J. Williams.
24th Michigan, Capt. Albert M. Edwards.
76th New York, Lieut. Col. John E. Cook.
1st Battalion New York Sharpshooters, Capt. Volney J. Shipman.
2d Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. John Mansfield.
6th Wisconsin, Col. Edward S. Bragg.
7th Wisconsin, Col. William W. Robinson.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. J. WILLIAM HOFMANN.

7th Indiana, Col. Ira G. Grover.
84th New York (14th Militia), Maj. Henry T. Head.
95th New York, Col. Edward Pye.
147th New York, Col. Francis C. Miller.
56th Pennsylvania, Capt. Michael Kunkle.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN C. ROBINSON.

*First Brigade.*

Col. THOMAS F. MCCOY.

16th Maine, Lieut. Col. Augustus B. Farnham.
13th Massachusetts, Capt. Charles H. Hovey.
39th Massachusetts, Col. Phineas S. Davis.
104th New York, Col. Gilbert G. Prey.
107th Pennsylvania, Capt. Edwin E. Zeigler.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. CHARLES WHEELOCK.

12th Massachusetts, Capt. Charles W. Hastings.
83d New York (9th Militia), Maj. Henry. V. Williamson.
97th New York, Maj. Charles Northrup.
11th Pennsylvania, Col. Richard Coulter.
88th Pennsylvania, Capt. John S. Steeple.
90th Pennsylvania, Col. Peter Lyle.

* From Fourth and Sixteenth Pennsylvania Regiments.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN R. KENLY.

*First Brigade.*

Col. LANGHORNE WISTER.

121st Pennsylvania, Maj. Thomas M. Hall.
142d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Alfred B. McCalmont.
143d Pennsylvania, Col. Edmund L. Dana.
149th Pennsylvania, Capt. John Irvin.
150th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Henry S. Huidekoper.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. NATHAN T. DUSHANE.

1st Maryland, Maj. Benjamin H. Schley.
4th Maryland, Col. Richard N. Bowerman.
7th Maryland, Lieut. Col. Charles E. Phelps.
8th Maryland, Col. Andrew W. Denison.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES S. WAINWRIGHT.

Maine Light, 5th Battery (E), Lieut. Edward N. Whittier.
Maryland Light, Battery A, Capt. James H. Rigby.
1st New York Light, Batteries E and L, Capt. Gilbert H. Reynolds.
1st New York Light, Battery H, Lieut. David F. Ritchie.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery B, Capt. James H. Cooper.
4th United States, Battery B, Lieut. James Stewart.

## SECOND ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. GOUVERNEUR K. WARREN.

ESCORT.

Cavalry detachments,* Lieut. Robert Brown.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN C. CALDWELL.

*First Brigade.*

Col. H. BOYD MCKEEN.

26th Michigan, Maj. Lemuel Saviers.
61st New York, Lieut. Col. K. Oscar Broady.
81st Pennsylvania, Capt. William Wilson.
140th Pennsylvania, Capt. John F. McCullough.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. RICHARD BYRNES.

28th Massachusetts, Capt. Jeremiah W. Covenay.
63d New York, † } Capt. Peter T. Boyle.
69th New York, † }
88th New York, † }
116th Pennsylvania, Capt. Garrett Nowlen.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JAMES A. BEAVER.

7th New York, † } Capt. William Scherrer.
52d New York, †
57th New York, † } Lieut. Col. Alford B. Chapman.
66th New York, †
148th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George A. Fairlamb.

*Fourth Brigade.*

Maj. LEMAN W. BRADLEY.

2d Delaware, Capt. Peter McCullough.
64th New York, Capt. William Glenny.
53d Pennsylvania, Capt. Archibald F Jones.
145th Pennsylvania, Maj. Charles M. Lynch.

* From Tenth New York and Thirteenth Pennsylvania.
† Detachment.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER S. WEBB.

*Headquarters.*

2d Company Minnesota Sharpshooters, Lieut. Mahlon Black.

*First Brigade.*

Col. DE WITT C. BAXTER.

19th Maine, Capt. William H. Fogler.
15th Massachusetts, Capt. Charles H. Eager.
1st Minnesota, Capt. Henry C. Coates.
82d New York (2d Militia), Col. Henry W. Hudson.
152d New York, Lieut. Col. George W. Thompson.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. R. PENN SMITH.

69th Pennsylvania, Capt. Thomas Woods.
71st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Charles Kochersperger.
72d Pennsylvania, Capt. Edward B. Whitaker.
106th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William L. Curry.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. TURNER G. MOREHEAD.

19th Massachusetts, Col. Arthur F. Devereux.
20th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. George N. Macy.
1st Company (Andrew) Massachusetts Sharpshooters, Lieut. Samuel G. Gilbreth.
7th Michigan,* Col. Norman J. Hall.
42d New York, Lieut. Col. William A. Lynch.
59th New York,* Lieut. Col. Horace P. Rugg.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER HAYS.

*First Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL S. CARROLL.

14th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Elijah H. C. Cavins.
4th Ohio, Maj. Peter Grubb.
8th Ohio, Capt. William Kenny.
7th West Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Jonathan H. Lockwood.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. CHARLES J. POWERS.

14th Connecticut, Maj. James B. Coit.
1st Delaware,* Capt. George F. Tait.
12th New Jersey, Capt. Henry F. Chew.
10th New York Battalion, Capt. George M. Dewey.
108th New York, Lieut. Col. Francis E. Pierce.

*Third Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JOSHUA T. OWEN.

39th New York, Lieut. Col. James G. Hughes.
111th New York, Lieut. Col. Isaac M. Lusk.
125th New York, Capt. Frank Chamberlain.
126th New York, Lieut. Col. William H. Baird.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Lieut. Col. J. ALBERT MONROE.

1st New York Light, Battery G, Capt. Nelson Ames.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Batteries F and G, Lieut. Beldin Spence.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery C, Capt. James Thompson.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery F, Capt. Nathaniel Irish.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery A, Capt. William A. Arnold.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery B, Capt. John G. Hazard.
5th United States, Battery C, Lieut. Richard Metcalf.

* Absent on veteran furlough.

## THIRD ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. DAVID B. BIRNEY.

### FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. J. H. HOBART WARD.

*First Brigade.*

Col. CHARLES H. T. COLLIS.

57th Pennsylvania,* Col. Peter Sides.
63d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John A. Danks.
105th Pennsylvania,* Col. Calvin A. Craig.
110th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Isaac Rogers.
141st Pennsylvania, Col. Henry J. Madill.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. ELIJAH WALKER.

20th Indiana, Col. William C. L. Taylor.
3d Maine, Col. Moses B. Lakeman.
4th Maine, Maj. Robert H. Gray.
86th New York, Lieut. Col. Jacob H. Lansing.
14th New York, Lieut. Col. Francis M. Cummins.
99th Pennsylvania, Col. Asher S. Leidy.
2d U. S. Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. Homer R. Stoughton.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. GEORGE W. WEST.

17th Maine, Maj. Charles P. Mattocks.
3d Michigan,† 5th Michigan,† 40th New York, } Lieut. Col. George W. Meikel.
68th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Robert E. Winslow.
1st U. S. Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. Edwin R. Biles.

### SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. HENRY PRINCE.

*First Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM BLAISDELL.

1st Massachusetts, Col. Napoleon B. McLaughlen.
11th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Porter D. Tripp.
16th Massachusetts, Maj. Samuel W. Richardson.
11th New Jersey, Col. Robert McAllister.
26th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Robert L. Bodine.
84th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Milton Opp.

*Second Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. JOHN LEONARD.

70th New York, Maj. William H. Hugo.
71st New York, Maj. Thomas Rafferty.
72d New York, Maj. Caspar K. Abell.
73d New York, Lieut. Col. Michael W. Burns.
74th New York, Maj. Henry M. Alles.
120th New York, Maj. John R. Tappen.

*Third Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. GERSHOM MOTT.

5th New Jersey, Maj. Ashbel W. Angel
6th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Stephen R. Gilkyson.
7th New Jersey, Capt. James McKiernan.
8th New Jersey, Col. John Ramsey.
115th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John P. Dunne.

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*Absent on veteran furlough.
† Detachment.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH B. CARR.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. MORRIS.

14th New Jersey, Col. William S. Truex.
151st New York, Maj. Thomas M. Fay.
10th Vermont, Col. Albert B. Jewett.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. J. WARREN KEIFER.

6th Maryland, Col. John W. Horn.
110th Ohio, Capt. Aaron Spangler.
122d Ohio, Col. William H. Ball.
138th Pennsylvania, Capt. George W. Guss.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. BENJAMIN F. SMITH.

106th New York, Lieut. Col. Charles Townsend.
126th Ohio, Maj. Aaron W. Ebright.
67th Pennsylvania, Col. John F. Staunton.
87th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. James A. Stahle.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Capt. O'NEIL W. ROBINSON, Jr.

Maine Light, 4th Battery (D), Lieut. Melville C. Kimball.
Massachusetts Light, 10th Battery, Capt. J. Henry Sleeper.
New Hampshire Light, 1st Battery, Lieut. John Wadleigh.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery B, Capt. A. Judson Clark.
1st New York Light, Battery D, Lieut. Thomas H. Crego.
New York Light, 12th Battery, Capt. George F. McKnight.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery E, Lieut. John K. Bucklyn.
4th United States, Battery K, Lieut. John W. Roder.

## FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE SYKES.

PROVOST GUARD.

12th New York, Companies D and E, Capt. Henry W. Rider.

FIRST DIVISION.

Col. JACOB B. SWEITZER.

*First Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM S. TILTON.

118th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. William B. White.
22d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Thomas Sherwin, jr.
1st Michigan, Maj. George C. Hopper.
18th Pennsylvania, Col. James Gwyn.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. PATRICK R. GUINEY.

9th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Patrick T. Hanley.
32d Massachusetts, Capt. Josiah C. Fuller.
4th Michigan, Lieut. Col. George W. Lumbard.
62d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. James C. Hull.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JOSEPH HAYES.

20th Maine, Maj. Ellis Spear.
16th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Norval E. Welch.
44th New York, Maj. Edward B. Knox.
83d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. De Witt C. McCoy.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROMEYN B. AYRES.

*First Brigade.*

Maj. LUTHER B. BRUEN.

2d United States (six companies), Capt. Joseph S. Conrad.
3d United States, Lieut. John H. Page.
11th United States, Capt. Francis M. Cooley.
12th United States, Capt. Philip W. Stanhope.
14th United States (eight companies), Capt. Edward McK. Hudson.
17th United States (eight companies), Capt. Dudley H. Chase.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. DAVID T. JENKINS.

140th New York, Col. George Ryan.
146th New York, Lieut. Col. Jesse J. Armstrong.
91st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Sinex.
155th Pennsylvania, Capt. Samuel A. McKee.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL W. CRAWFORD.

*First Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM MCCANDLESS.

1st Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. William W. Stewart.
2d Pennsylvania Reserves, Maj. Richard Ellis.
6th Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. William D. Dixon.
11th Pennsylvania Reserves, Col. Samuel M. Jackson.
13th Pennsylvania Reserves (1st Rifles), Lieut. Col. Alanson E. Niles.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JOSEPH W. FISHER.

5th Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. George Dare.
9th Pennsylvania Reserves, Maj. Charles Barnes.
10th Pennsylvania Reserves, Maj. Ira Ayer, jr.
12th Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. Richard Gustin.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Capt. AUGUSTUS P. MARTIN.

Massachusetts Light, 3d Battery (C), Lieut. Aaron F. Walcott.
Massachusetts Light, 5th Battery (E), Capt. Charles A. Phillips.
1st New York Light, Battery C, Capt. Almont Barnes.
1st Ohio Light, Battery L, Capt. Frank C. Gibbs.
3d United States, Batteries F and K, Lieut. George F. Barstow.
5th United States, Battery D, Lieut. Benjamin F. Rittenhouse.

## SIXTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN SEDGWICK.

ESCORT.

1st Vermont Cavalry (detachment), Capt. Andrew J. Grover.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. DAVID A. RUSSELL.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ALFRED T. A. TORBERT.

1st New Jersey, Lieut. Col. William Henry, jr.
2d New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Charles Wiebecke.
3d New Jersey, Maj. William E. Bryan.
4th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Charles Ewing.
15th New Jersey, Col. William H. Penrose.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. EMORY UPTON.

5th Maine, Col. Clark S. Edwards.
121st New York, Lieut. Col. Egbert Olcott.
95th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward Carroll.
96th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William H. Lessig.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. THOMAS S. ALLEN.

6th Maine, Capt. Theodore Lincoln, jr.
49th Pennsylvania, Maj. John B. Miles.
119th Pennsylvania, Maj. Henry P. Truefitt, jr.
5th Wisconsin, Maj. Enoch Totten.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS H. NEILL.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. LEWIS A. GRANT.

2d Vermont, Maj. John S. Tyler.
3d Vermont, Lieut. Col. Samuel E. Pingree.
4th Vermont, Maj. Stephen M. Pingree.
5th Vermont, Lieut. Col. John R. Lewis.
6th Vermont, Lieut. Col. Oscar A. Hale.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. EDWIN C. MASON.

7th Maine, Capt. Stephen C. Fletcher.
43d New York, Lieut. Col. John Wilson.
49th New York, Lieut. Col. George W. Johnson.
77th New York, Maj. Nathan S. Babcock.
61st Pennsylvania, Maj. George W. Dawson.

THIRD DIVISION.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY D. TERRY.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER SHALER.

65th New York, Col. Joseph E. Hamblin.
67th New York, Maj. Charles O. Belden.
122d New York, Lieut. Col. Augustus W. Dwight.
23d Pennsylvania, Maj. William J. Wallace.
82d Pennsylvania, Capt. William Kopp.

*Second Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY L. EUSTIS.

7th Massachusetts, Col. Thomas D. Johns.
10th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Parsons.
37th Massachusetts, Col. Oliver Edwards.
2d Rhode Island, Maj. Henry C. Jenckes.

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*First Brigade detached at Johnson's Island, Ohio; Second Brigade attached to Second Division, and Third Brigade in the Department of West Virginia. For composition of latter brigade, see p. 479. Brigadier-General Terry, the division commander, assumed command at Johnson's Island, Ohio, January 13.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES H. TOMPKINS.

Massachusetts Light, 1st Battery (A), Lieut. Jacob Federhen.
New York Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Andrew Cowan.
New York Light, 3d Battery, Capt. William A. Harn.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery C, Capt. Richard Waterman.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery G, Capt. George W. Adams.
4th United States, Battery C, Lieut. John McGilvray.
5th United States, Battery M, Capt. James McKnight.

## CAVALRY CORPS.

Brig. Gen. DAVID MCM. GREGG.

HEADQUARTERS GUARD.

6th United States, Maj. Robert M. Morris.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WESLEY MERRITT.

*First Brigade.*

Col. GEORGE H. CHAPMAN.

8th Illinois, Col. William Gamble.
3d Indiana (six companies), Maj. William S. McClure.
8th New York, Lieut. Col. William L. Markell.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. JOSIAH H. KELLOGG.

4th New York, Maj. August Haurand.
6th New York (detachment), Capt. Nehemiah H. Mann.
9th New York, Capt. Benjamin J. Coffin.
17th Pennsylvania, Maj. Reuben Reinhold.

*Reserve Brigade.*

Col. ALFRED GIBBS.

19th New York (1st Dragoons), Lieut. Col. Thomas J. Thorp.
6th Pennsylvania, Maj. William P. C. Treichel.
1st United States, Capt. Nelson B. Sweitzer.
2d United States, Capt. George A. Gordon.
5th United States, Capt. Julius W. Mason.

SECOND DIVISION.

Col. JOHN P. TAYLOR.

*First Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM STEDMAN.

1st Massachusetts, Capt. Benjamin W. Crowninshield.
1st New Jersey, Maj. Hugh H. Janeway.
6th Ohio, Capt. George W. Dickinson.
1st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. David Gardner.
3d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward S. Jones.
1st Rhode Island, Lieut. Col. John L. Thompson.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. CHARLES H. SMITH.

1st Maine, Maj. Sidney W. Thaxter.
10th New York, Capt. George Vanderbilt.
2d Pennsylvania, Maj. Joseph Steele.
4th Pennsylvania.*
8th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Samuel Wilson.
13th Pennsylvania, Maj. Michael Kerwin.
16th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John K. Robison.

* Detached, guarding line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JUDSON KILPATRICK.

*Headquarters Guard.*

1st Ohio, Companies A and C, Capt. Samuel N. Stanford.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY E. DAVIES, Jr.

2d New York, Lieut. Col. Otto Harhaus.
5th New York, Maj. William P. Bacon.
18th Pennsylvania, Col. Timothy M. Bryan, jr.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. RUSSELL A. ALGER.

1st Michigan, Lieut. Albert L. Emerson.
5th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Ebenezer Gould.
6th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Henry E. Thompson.
7th Michigan, Maj. John S. Huston.
1st Vermont, Lieut. Col. Addison W. Preston.

ARTILLERY.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT.

HORSE ARTILLERY.

*First Brigade.*

Capt. JAMES M. ROBERTSON.

New York Light, 6th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. Martin.
2d United States, Batteries B and L, Lieut. Edward Heaton.
2d United States, Battery D, Lieut. Robert H. Chapin.
2d United States, Battery M, Lieut. Alexander C. M. Pennington, jr.
4th United States, Battery A, Lieut. Frederick Fuger.
4th United States, Battery E, Lieut. Edward Field.

*Second Brigade.*

Capt. WILLIAM M. GRAHAM.

1st United States, Battery E, Lieut. Frank S. French.
1st United States, Battery I, Capt. Alanson M. Randol.
1st United States, Battery K, Lieut. Jacob H. Counselman.
2d United States, Battery A, Lieut. Robert Clarke.
2d United States, Battery G, Lieut. James E. Wilson.
3d United States, Battery C, Lieut. James R. Kelly.

ARTILLERY RESERVE.

Col. J. HOWARD KITCHING.

*First Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. JAMES BRADY.

1st Connecticut Heavy, Company B, Lieut. Joseph H. Cummings.
1st Connecticut Heavy, Company M, Lieut. Roswell S. Douglass.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery A, Capt. William Hexamer.
1st New York Light, Battery B, Lieut. Robert E. Rogers.
New York Light, 5th Battery, Capt. Elijah D. Taft.
1st West Virginia Light, Battery C, Capt. Wallace Hill.

*Second Brigade.*

Capt. PATRICK HART.

Maine Light, 6th Battery (F), Capt. Edwin B. Dow.
Massachusetts Light, 9th Battery, Lieut. Richard S. Milton.
New York Light, 11th Battery, Capt. John E. Burton.
New York Light, 15th Battery, Lieut. Andrew R. McMahon.
1st Ohio Light, Battery H, Lieut. Frank B. Reckard.
1st United States, Battery H, Lieut. Philip D. Mason.

*Unattached.*

6th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. Absalom Crookston.

*See also the artillery attached to the several corps.

*Abstract from return of the troops serving in the Department of the East, Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of January, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of heavy artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| Department headquarters | 87 | ..... | 87 | 87 | ..... |
| Headquarters U. S. troops in city and harbor of New York, Brig. Gen. G. J. Stannard. | 7 | ..... | 7 | 7 | ..... |
| Fort Hamilton, Col. H. Day, U. S. Army | 11 | 179 | 296 | 400 | 63 |
| Fort La Fayette, Lieut. Col. M. Burke | 5 | 69 | 106 | 168 | 65 |
| Fort Richmond, Col. E. G. Marshall | 24 | 593 | 782 | 1,879 | 200 |
| Fort at Sandy Hook, Lieut. Col. E. Steen *a* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 34 |
| Fort Schuyler, Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. Brown | 11 | 251 | 1,832 | 1,907 | 124 |
| Fort Wood, Col. C. S. Merchant | 7 | 79 | 111 | 210 | 55 |
| Fort Columbus, Col. G. Loomis, U. S. Army | 16 | 305 | 478 | 617 | 106 |
| David's Island, Surg. W. Webster *b* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Riker's Island, Brig. Gen. N. J. Jackson | 6 | 1 | 7 | 7 | ..... |
| Fort Ontario, Capt. Charles H. Lewis | ..... | 98 | 118 | 119 | 17 |
| Fort Warren, Col. Justin Dimick | 22 | 590 | 721 | 763 | 101 |
| Fort Independence, Lieut. Col. De L. Floyd-Jones | 9 | 204 | 288 | 296 | 56 |
| Forts Preble and Scammel, Maj. G. L. Andrews | 4 | 107 | 143 | 156 | 48 |
| Fort Trumbull, Col. W. Gates, U. S. Army | 1 | 395 | 487 | 542 | 62 |
| Fort Niagara, N. Y., Ord. Sergt. Louis Leffman | ..... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... |
| New Bedford Harbor defenses, Capt. J. A. P. Allen | 3 | 72 | 103 | 144 | 19 |
| Fort Adams, Col. O. L. Shepherd | 1 | 94 | 136 | 170 | 200 |
| Portsmouth Grove, R. I., Capt. C. Blanding | 3 | 63 | 76 | 81 | ..... |
| Fort Constitution, N. H., Capt. Charles H. Long | 5 | 122 | 143 | 150 | 19 |
| Fort McClary, Me., Capt. I. McL. Barton | 4 | 135 | 143 | 147 | 4 |
| Fort Knox, Me., Lieut. T. H. Palmer | 2 | 20 | 24 | 26 | ..... |
| Madison Barracks, N. Y., Ord. Sergt. W. Gaines | ..... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... |
| Fort at Eastern Point, Mass., Capt. Thomas Herbert | 5 | 136 | 151 | 151 | ..... |
| Fort Pickering, Capt. J. M. Richardson | 5 | 128 | 147 | 148 | ..... |
| Fort Porter, Col. G. S. Jennings *a* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 15 |
| Grand total, Department of the East *c* | 238 | 3,643 | 6,388 | 8,177 | 1,188 |

*a* Attached troops.
*b* Detachments Invalid Corps.
*c* Attached troops not added in total on original return, and not accounted for here.

*Abstract from return of the Department of Washington, Maj. Gen. Christopher C. Augur, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of January, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters *a* | 23 | 20 | 44 | 47 | ..... | ..... |
| Artillery camp of instruction | 44 | 1,079 | 1,371 | 1,536 | ..... | 52 |
| District of Washington | 135 | 2,908 | 4,426 | 5,249 | ..... | ..... |
| Defenses north of the Potomac | 273 | 7,599 | 9,360 | 10,257 | 334 | 97 |
| Provisional brigades | 4 | 10 | 14 | 14 | ..... | ..... |
| Defenses south of the Potomac | 233 | 6,754 | 8,353 | 9,461 | 385 | 82 |
| Tyler's division | 187 | 3,469 | 5,021 | 6,467 | ..... | 6 |
| District of Alexandria | 66 | 947 | 1,583 | 1,864 | ..... | 6 |
| Camp Convalescent, &c | 40 | 684 | 4,199 | 4,407 | ..... | ..... |
| Fort Washington, Md | 8 | 149 | 207 | 218 | 70 | 3 |
| Glymont Landing, Md | 4 | 79 | 144 | 170 | ..... | ..... |
| Government Farms, Va | 5 | 91 | 105 | 130 | ..... | ..... |
| Mason's Island, D. C | 19 | 698 | 870 | 935 | ..... | ..... |
| Cavalry division *b* | 121 | 2,664 | 4,084 | 4,209 | ..... | ..... |
| Total | 1,162 | 27,151 | 39,727 | 44,964 | 789 | 246 |

*a* Includes Brigadier-Generals Abercrombie and Weber and staffs, and band of Seventeenth U. S. Infantry.
*b* Dismounted men from Army of the Potomac, &c., awaiting remounts.

*Organization of troops in the Department of Washington (Twenty-second Army Corps), Maj. Gen. Christopher C. Augur, U. S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1864.*

LIGHT ARTILLERY CAMP OF INSTRUCTION.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM F. BARRY.

2d Maine Battery (B), Capt. Albert F. Thomas.
7th Maine Battery (G), Capt. Adelbert B. Twitchell.
3d New Jersey Battery, Capt. Christian Woerner.
4th New Jersey Battery, Capt. George T. Woodbury.
5th New Jersey Battery, Capt. Zenas C. Warren.
1st New York Light, Battery F, Capt. William R. Wilson.
19th New York Battery, Capt. Edward W. Rogers.
33d New York Battery, Capt. Alger M. Wheeler.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery H, Capt. Andrew Fagan.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery H, Capt. Crawford Allen, jr.
5th U. S. Artillery, Battery F, Lieut. Leonard Martin.
5th U. S. Artillery, Battery I, Lieut. Charles C. MacConnell.
5th U. S. Artillery, Battery L, Lieut. Gulian V. Weir.
3d Vermont Battery, Capt. Romeo H. Start.

DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON.

Brig. Gen. JOHN H. MARTINDALE, Military Governor.

14th New Hampshire, Col. Robert Wilson.
153d New York, Col. Edwin P. Davis.
27th Pennsylvania, Company F, Capt. John M. Carson.
150th Pennsylvania, Company K, Capt. Thomas Getchell.
9th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Col. George W. Gile.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (fifteen companies), Col. Oscar V. Dayton.
U. S. Ordnance Detachment, Maj. James G. Benton.
11th New York Cavalry, Col. James B. Swain.
Ohio Union Light Guard (one company), Capt. George A. Bennett.

DEFENSES NORTH OF THE POTOMAC.†

Lieut. Col. JOSEPH A. HASKIN.

*First Brigade.*

Col. AUGUSTUS A. GIBSON.

2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Col. Augustus A. Gibson.
1st Vermont Heavy Artillery, Col. James M. Warner.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. LEWIS O. MORRIS.

1st Maine Heavy Artillery, Col. Daniel Chaplin.
7th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Lewis O. Morris.
9th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph Welling.
9th New York Battery, Capt. Emil Schubert.

*Third Brigade.*

10th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Alexander Piper.

PROVISIONAL BRIGADES.

Maj. Gen. SILAS CASEY.

(No troops.)

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* Camps Barry and Marshall.

† Troops at Advance Battery and Forts Baker, Bunker Hill, Reno, Simmons, Slocum, and Sumner. Detachment of Ninth New York Heavy Artillery at Fort Foote.

DEFENSES SOUTH OF THE POTOMAC.*

Brig. Gen. GUSTAVUS A. DE RUSSY.

*First Brigade.*

Col. THOMAS R. TANNATT.

1st Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Col. Thomas R. Tannatt.
2d New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph N. G. Whistler.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT.

1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Col. Henry L. Abbot.
2d Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Col. Elisha S. Kellogg.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JOHN C. TIDBALL.

4th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. John C. Tidball.
16th New York Cavalry, Company D, Capt. A. Livingston Washburne.

*Fourth Brigade.*

Col. LOUIS SCHIRMER.

15th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Louis Schirmer.
Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, Company A, Maj. Charles C. Meservey.

TYLER'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT O. TYLER.

*First Brigade.*

Col. ARTHUR H. GRIMSHAW.

4th Delaware, Lieut. Col. Charles E. La Motte.
2d District of Columbia, Col. Charles M. Alexander.
157th Pennsylvania (four companies), Capt. Aldus F. Hawthorn.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. MATHEW MURPHY.

155th New York, Lieut. Col. H. C. Flood.
164th New York, Col. James P. McMahon.
170th New York, Col. James P. McIvor.
182d New York (69th New York National Guard Artillery), Lieut. Col. Thomas M. Reid.

*Cavalry Brigade.*

Col. CHARLES R. LOWELL, Jr.

2d Massachusetts, Maj. Casper Crowninshield.
13th New York (nine companies), Lieut. Col. Henry S. Gansevoort.
16th New York, Col. Henry M. Lazelle.

*Artillery.*

17th New York Battery, Capt. George T. Anthony.

DISTRICT OF ALEXANDRIA.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. SLOUGH, Military Governor.

*Second Brigade, Pennsylvania Reserve Corps.*

Col. HORATIO G. SICKEL.

3d Regiment,† Maj. William Briner.
4th Regiment,† Col. Richard H. Woolworth.
7th Regiment, Col. Henry C. Bolinger.
8th Regiment, Lieut. Col. William Lemon.

*Not brigaded.*

1st District of Columbia, Lieut. Col. Lemuel Towers.
5th New York (veteran), Lieut. Col. Cleveland Winslow.
1st Michigan Cavalry, Company D,‡ Capt. Thurlow W. Lusk.
Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery H, Capt. William Borrowe.

* Headquarters at Arlington; troops at Batteries Garesché and Rodgers, and at Forts Albany, Barnard, Bennett, Berry, Cass, Corcoran, Craig, Ellsworth, Ethan Allen, Farnsworth, Haggerty, Lyon, Marcy, O'Rorke, Reynolds, Richardson, Runyon, C. F. Smith, Strong, Tillinghast, Ward Weed, Whipple, Willard, Williams, Woodbury, and Worth.

† On duty in West Virginia.

‡ Under command of Lieut. Col. Henry H. Wells, provost-marshal, Alexandria.

CAMP CONVALESCENT, &C.

Lieut. Col. SAMUEL MCKELVY.

Camp Convalescent, Lieut. Col. Samuel McKelvy.
Detachment U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Maj. James Johnson.
Camp of Deserters, Maj. Charles G. Freudenberg.
Camp of Distribution, Lieut. Hugh R. Stewart.

DETACHMENTS.

*Glymont Landing, Md.*

1st Indiana Cavalry, Companies I and K, Capt. Abram Sharra.

*Government Farms, Va.*

111th New York, Companies B and C, Capt. Robert C. Perry.

*Mason's Island, D. C.*

109th New York,* Col. Benjamin F. Tracy.

FORT WASHINGTON, MD.

Col. HORACE BROOKS.

16th Indiana Battery, Capt. Charles R. Deming.

CAVALRY DIVISION.

Col. JOHN B. MCINTOSH.

Detachments 1st Cavalry Division, Army of the Potomac, Capt. John S. Struthers.
Detachments 2d Cavalry Division, Army of the Potomac, Maj. Myron H. Beaumont.
Detachments 3d Cavalry Division, Army of the Potomac, Maj. Henry W. Granger.
1st New York (veteran), Col. Robert F. Taylor.
2d New York (veteran), Col. Morgan H. Chrysler.

*Camp of Instruction.*

15th New York (detachment), Lieut. Edward R. Trull.
18th New York (detachment), Lieut. Col. Stephen W. Stryker.
1st Michigan Cavalry, 3d Battalion, Lieut. Col. Peter Stagg.

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*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Middle Department (Eighth Army Corps), Brig. Gen. Henry H. Lockwood, U. S. Army, commanding, for January 31, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| General headquarters | 15 | ..... | 15 | 15 |
| First Separate Brigade (E. B. Tyler) | 80 | 1,039 | 1,250 | 1,417 |
| Second Separate Brigade (Morris) | 72 | 2,227 | 2,838 | 3,400 |
| District of Delaware (D. Tyler) | 18 | 543 | 622 | 828 |
| Annapolis, Md. (Waite) | 6 | 68 | 79 | 109 |
| Baltimore, Md | 35 | 917 | 1,243 | 1,848 |
| Benedict, Md. (Birney) | 80 | 2,235 | 2,875 | 3,040 |
| Salisbury, Md. (Comegys) | 29 | 563 | 628 | 654 |
| Newtown, Md. (Fearing) | 2 | 90 | 95 | 97 |
| Fort Delaware (Schoepf) | 17 | 245 | 413 | 438 |
| Total | 354 | 7,927 | 10,058 | 11,846 |

* Detachment on duty under Brig. Gen. Henry S. Briggs, Alexandria.

*Organization of troops in the Middle Department (Eighth Army Corps), Brig. Gen. Henry H. Lockwood, U. S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1864.*

FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE.*

Brig. Gen. ERASTUS B. TYLER.

3d Delaware, Col. Samuel H. Jenkins.
3d Maryland, Potomac Home Brigade, Lieut. Col. Charles Gilpin.
9th Maryland, Col. Benjamin L. Simpson.
Purnell (Maryland) Legion, Col. Samuel A. Graham.
1st Delaware Cavalry, Company C, Capt. Charles Corbit.
5th New York Heavy Artillery, Company F, Capt. Eugene McGrath, sr.

SECOND SEPARATE BRIGADE.†

Col. PETER A. PORTER.‡

5th New York Heavy Artillery (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Edward Murray.
8th New York Heavy Artillery (ten companies), Lieut. Col. Willard W. Bates.
2d U. S. Artillery, Battery I, Lieut. James E. Wilson.

DISTRICT OF DELAWARE.

Maj. HENRY B. JUDD.§

5th Maryland,‖ Col. William L. Schley.
1st Delaware Cavalry, Company D, Lieut. Solomon Townsend.
1st Delaware Cavalry, Company E, Capt. John B. W. Aydelott.
Purnell (Maryland) Cavalry, Company C, Lieut. Charles W. Palmer.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (detachment), Lieut. James Lewis.

BALTIMORE, MD.

*Artillery Reserve.*

Capt. FREDERIC W. ALEXANDER.

Baltimore Light Battery, Capt. Frederic W. Alexander.
3d Pennsylvania, Battery H, Capt. William D. Rank.

*Cavalry Reserve.*

Maj. ERASTUS BLAKESLEE.

1st Connecticut, Maj. Erastus Blakeslee.
1st Delaware, Maj. Napoleon B. Knight.

FORT DELAWARE, DEL.

Brig. Gen. ALBIN SCHOEPF.

Delaware Heavy Artillery Company, Capt. George W. Ahl.
Pennsylvania Artillery, Battery A, Capt. Stanislaus Mlotkowski.
Pennsylvania Artillery, Battery G, Capt. John J. Young.

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*At Relay House (Baltimore and Ohio Railroad), Chapel Point, and Ellicott's Mills.
†At Forts McHenry, Marshall, and Federal Hill.
‡Bvt. Brig. Gen. William W. Morris, the proper commander, on detached duty.
§Brig. Gen. Daniel Tyler, the proper commander, on detached duty.
‖On veteran furlough.

BENEDICT, MD.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY.

7th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. James Shaw, jr.
9th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Thomas Bayley.
19th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Theodore H. Rockwood.

ANNAPOLIS, MD.

Col. CARLOS A. WAITE.

3d Delaware (detachment),
2d Maryland, Eastern Shore (detachment), } Capt. Wilson W. Walker.
Purnell (Maryland) Cavalry, Company B, Capt. Thomas H. Watkins.

NEWTOWN, MD.

Smith's Company (Maryland) Cavalry, Lieut. Joseph T. Fearing.

SALISBURY, MD.

1st Maryland, Eastern Shore, Lieut. Col. William H. Comegys.

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*Abstract from tri-monthly return of troops in the Department of the Susquehanna, Maj. Gen. Darius N. Couch, U. S. Army, commanding, January* 31, 1864.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| Department staff | 10 | ..... | 10 | 10 | ..... |
| Philadelphia (Brig. Gen. Orris S. Ferry): | | | | | |
| Staff | 3 | ..... | 3 | 4 | ..... |
| Infantry (five companies) | 9 | 69 | 231 | 299 | ..... |
| Cavalry (two companies) | 3 | 163 | 174 | 280 | ..... |
| Artillery (two companies) | 2 | 159 | 180 | 216 | 4 |
| Total | 17 | 391 | 588 | 799 | 4 |
| Lehigh District (Maj. Gen. Franz Sigel): | | | | | |
| Staff | 2 | ..... | 2 | 2 | ..... |
| Infantry (ten companies) | 25 | 514 | 649 | 749 | ..... |
| Artillery (one company) | 1 | 76 | 86 | 97 | 4 |
| Total | 28 | 590 | 737 | 848 | 4 |
| Chief of Cavalry (Maj. Gen. Julius Stahel): | | | | | |
| Staff | 6 | ..... | 6 | 6 | ..... |
| Infantry, *a* Lieut. Col. James V. Bomford | 5 | 77 | 82 | 90 | ..... |
| Fifth U. S. Artillery, Battery E, *b* Lieut. James W. Piper | 4 | 87 | 97 | 101 | 4 |
| Cavalry (sixteen companies), *b* Col. William H. Boyd | 28 | 652 | 914 | 1,341 | ..... |
| Detachment Twenty-second Pennsylvania Cavalry, *b* Lieut. C. L. Mercereau. | 1 | 24 | 25 | 54 | ..... |
| Grand total, Department of the Susquehanna | 100 | 1,821 | 2,460 | 3,250 | 12 |

*a* At Harrisburg.
*b* At Chambersburg.

*Organization of troops in the Department of the Susquehanna, commanded by Maj. Gen. Darius N. Couch, U. S. Army, January 31, 1864.*

*Philadelphia, Pa.*

Brig. Gen. ORRIS S. FERRY.

147th Pennsylvania Infantry, Company I, Capt. Charles Fair.
27th New York Battery,* Lieut. Charles A. Clark.
Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery I,* Capt. Robert J. Nevin.
20th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company B,* Capt. Michael B. Strickler.
20th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company L,* Capt. Samuel Comfort, jr.
Convalescents, Capt. John O. W. Finnie.
Provost Guard, Lieut. Col. Henry A. Frink.

*Chambersburg, Pa.*

Col. WILLIAM H. BOYD.

21st Pennsylvania Cavalry, Maj. Charles F. Gillies.
22d Pennsylvania Cavalry (detachment), Lieut. Charles L. Mercereau.
5th U. S. Artillery, Battery E, Lieut. James W. Piper.

*Lehigh District.*

Maj. Gen. FRANZ SIGEL.

10th New Jersey Infantry, Capt. Henry A. Perrine.
1st New York Light Artillery, Battery A. Lieut. Isaac B. Hall.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (six companies), Col. Samuel D. Oliphant.

*Harrisburg, Pa.*

Lieut. Col. JAMES V. BOMFORD.

Patapsco (Maryland) Guards, Capt. Thomas S. McGowan.
1st Battalion Pennsylvania Infantry, Company B, Capt. David Z. Seipe.

*York, Pa.*

Surg. HENRY PALMER.

50th Company, Second Battalion, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Capt. Robert T. Knox.

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*Abstract from return of the Department of the Monongahela, Maj. Gen. William T. H. Brooks, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of January, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Department staff | 9 | ..... | 9 | 9 |
| Departmental troops, Ohio infantry (nine companies) | 21 | 564 | 592 | 749 |
| Total | 30 | 564 | 601 | 758 |

*At Camp Couch, commanded by Capt. James McCann.

*Abstract from tri-monthly return of troops in the Department of West Virginia, Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | Stations. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| Department staff | 8 | ..... | 8 | 8 | ..... | Cumberland. |
| First Division (Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan). | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Harper's Ferry. |
| Infantry | 282 | 5,896 | 7,019 | 8,379 | ..... | |
| Cavalry | 86 | 2,071 | 2,794 | 3,796 | ..... | |
| Artillery | 43 | 1,201 | 1,419 | 1,576 | 72 | |
| Total | 411 | 9,168 | 11,232 | 13,751 | 72 | |
| Second Division (Col. James A. Mulligan). | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | New Creek. |
| Infantry | 219 | 5,709 | 6,671 | 7,549 | ..... | |
| Cavalry | 50 | 1,307 | 1,532 | 1,679 | ..... | |
| Artillery | 11 | 425 | 463 | 528 | 22 | |
| Total | 280 | 7,441 | 8,666 | 9,756 | 22 | |
| Third Division (Brig. Gen. E. P. Scammon) | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Charleston. |
| Infantry | 98 | 2,393 | 2,957 | 4,823 | ..... | |
| Cavalry | 42 | 1,318 | 1,577 | 2,092 | ..... | |
| Artillery | 5 | 197 | 222 | 313 | 16 | |
| Total | 145 | 3,908 | 4,756 | 7,228 | 16 | |
| Fourth Division (Brig. Gen. William W. Averell) | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Martinsburg. |
| Infantry | 40 | 1,063 | 1,263 | 1,579 | ..... | |
| Cavalry | 83 | 2,070 | 2,693 | 3,525 | ..... | |
| Artillery | 5 | 185 | 198 | 221 | 12 | |
| Total | 128 | 3,318 | 4,154 | 5,325 | 12 | |
| Virginia Exempts (two companies), Capt. E. Over. | 5 | 130 | 178 | 186 | ..... | Wheeling. |
| Detachment Signal Corps, Capt. E. A. Denicke. | 3 | 14 | 18 | 20 | ..... | Martinsburg. |
| Grand total, Department of West Virginia. | 980 | 23,979 | 29,012 | 36,274 | 122 | |

*Organization of troops in the Department of West Virginia, Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, U. S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1864.*

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JEREMIAH C. SULLIVAN.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM P. MAULSBY.

1st Maryland, Potomac Home Brigade, Lieut. Col. Roger E. Cook.
2d Maryland, Eastern Shore, Lieut. Col. Elijah E. Massey.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. ROBERT S. RODGERS.

18th Connecticut, Maj. Henry Peale.
116th Ohio, Col. James Washburn.
123d Ohio, Maj. Horace Kellogg.
12th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. Lewis B. Pierce.
5th U. S. Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. Henry A. Du Pont.

*Wheaton's Brigade.*

Col. JOHN F. BALLIER.

62d New York, Col. David J. Nevin.
93d Pennsylvania, Maj. John I. Nevin.
98th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John B. Kohler.
102d Pennsylvania, Col. John W. Patterson.
139th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William H. Moody.
17th Indiana Battery,* Lieut. William H. Miner.
1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery D,* Capt. Andrew Rosney.
1st West Virginia Light Artillery, Battery A,* Capt. George Furst.

* Temporarily attached to brigade.

*Cavalry Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. CHARLES FITZ SIMMONS.

1st Connecticut (detachment), Lieut. Jason D. Thompson.
1st Maryland, Potomac Home Brigade (battalion), Maj. Henry A. Cole.
2d Maryland, Potomac Home Brigade (detachment), Capt. Norval McKinley.
6th Michigan (detachment), Capt. Charles W. Deane.
1st New York, Maj. Timothy Quinn.
15th New York (detachment), Maj. Robert H. S. Hyde.
21st New York, Maj. Charles G. Otis.

*Artillery.*

Maj. GUSTAVUS F. MERRIAM.

Maryland Light, Battery B, Capt. Alonzo Snow.
5th New York, Heavy (Third Battalion), Maj. Gustavus F. Merriam.
30th New York Battery, Capt. Alfred von Kleiser.
32d New York Battery, Capt. Charles Kusserow.
1st West Virginia Light, Battery H, Capt. James H. Holmes.

*Unattached.*

34th Massachusetts, Col. George D. Wells.
Engineer Company (Pennsylvania), Capt. William Penn Gaskell.
Loudoun (Virginia) Rangers, Capt. Samuel C. Means.

SECOND DIVISION.

Col. JAMES A. MULLIGAN.

*First Brigade.*

Col. JACOB M. CAMPBELL.

54th Pennsylvania, Maj. Enoch D. Yutzy.
12th West Virginia, Col. William B. Curtis.
15th West Virginia, Col. Maxwell McCaslin.
1st West Virginia Light Artillery, Battery E, Lieut. Francis M. Lowry.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. JOSEPH THOBURN.

23d Illinois, Lieut. Col. James Quirk.
2d Maryland, Potomac Home Brigade, Maj. John H. Huntley.
1st West Virginia, Lieut. Col. Jacob Weddle.
14th West Virginia, Lieut. Col. George W. Taggart.
Lafayette (Pennsylvania) Company Cavalry, Lieut. William F. Speer.
Ringgold (Pennsylvania) Company Cavalry, Capt. George T. Work.
Washington (Pennsylvania) Company Cavalry, Capt. Andrew J. Greenfield.
1st Illinois Light Artillery, Battery L, Lieut. John McAfee.
1st West Virginia Light Artillery, Battery D, Capt. John Carlin.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. NATHAN WILKINSON.

6th West Virginia, Maj. John H. Showalter.
11th West Virginia, Lieut. Col. Van H. Bukey.
4th West Virginia Cavalry, Col. Joseph Snider.
1st West Virginia Light Artillery, Battery F, Lieut. George W. Graham.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. E. PARKER SCAMMON.

*First Brigade.*

Col. ABIA A. TOMLINSON.

23d Ohio, Maj. James P. McIlrath.
5th West Virginia, Lieut. Col. William H. Enochs.
11th West Virginia, Company G, Capt. John V. Young.
13th West Virginia, Col. William R. Brown.
1st West Virginia Cavalry, Companies A and G, Capt. George W. Gilmore.
3d West Virginia Cavalry, Company G, Capt. John S. Witcher.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. CARR B. WHITE.

12th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Jonathan D. Hines.
91st Ohio, Col. John A. Turley.
9th West Virginia, Capt. Adonijah W. Rollins.
1st Ohio Battery, Capt. James R. McMullin.

*Third Brigade.*

Brig. Gen ALFRED N. DUFFIÉ.

34th Ohio (mounted), Capt. Frank B. Helwig.
2d West Virginia Cavalry, Maj. John McMahan.
3d West Virginia Cavalry (three companies), Capt. George W. McVicker.
Simmonds' (Kentucky) Battery, Lieut. Daniel W. Glassie.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM W. AVERELL.

Signal Corps (detachment), Capt. Ernst A. Denicke.

*First Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. MOSES S. HALL.

28th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Gottfried Becker.
10th West Virginia, Maj. Henry H. Withers.
1st West Virginia Light Artillery, Battery B, Capt. John V. Keeper.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. JAMES M. SCHOONMAKER.

16th Illinois Cavalry, Company C, Capt. Julius Jaehne.
3d Independent Company Ohio Cavalry, Capt. Frank Smith.
14th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Maj. John M. Daily.
1st West Virginia Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Harrison H. Hagans.
3d West Virginia Cavalry, Companies E, H, and I, Maj. Lot Bowen.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JOHN H. OLEY.

5th West Virginia Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Alexander Scott.
6th West Virginia Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Francis W. Thompson.
7th West Virginia Cavalry, Maj. Hedgeman Slack.
1st West Virginia Light Artillery, Battery G, Capt. Chatham T. Ewing.

*Unattached.*

Virginia Exempts (two companies), Capt. Ewald Over.

*Abstract from return of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of January,* 1864.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters[a] | 29 | 69 | 99 | 125 | ..... | ..... |
| Fort Monroe | 96 | 2,741 | 3,168 | 3,643 | 6 | 2 |
| Norfolk and Portsmouth (Wild) | 121 | 2,946 | 3,545 | 4,192 | ..... | 6 |
| Portsmouth (Heckman) | 245 | 5,034 | 6,384 | 11,046 | 50 | 38 |
| Yorktown and vicinity (Wistar) | 273 | 6,365 | 7,895 | 9,217 | ..... | 26 |
| Newport News (Dutton) | 54 | 1,066 | 1,431 | 2,563 | ..... | ..... |
| District of Saint Mary's (Marston) | 69 | 1,909 | 2,456 | 3,063 | ..... | 3 |
| Drummondtown (Powell) | 28 | 543 | 621 | 625 | ..... | ..... |
| Eastville (Duvall) | 3 | 74 | 79 | 90 | ..... | ..... |
| District of North Carolina (Peck): | | | | | | |
| Headquarters | 20 | ..... | 20 | 22 | ..... | ..... |
| Defenses of New Berne (Palmer) | 169 | 3,349 | 4,345 | 6,295 | 59 | 66 |
| Sub-district of the Albemarle (Wessells) | 123 | 2,115 | 2,751 | 4,033 | 17 | 13 |
| Sub-district of Beaufort (Jourdan) | 67 | 1,875 | 2,328 | 2,768 | 55 | 10 |
| Sub-district of the Pamlico (McChesney) | 36 | 1,337 | 1,667 | 1,943 | ..... | 6 |
| Total | 1,233 | 29,423 | 36,789 | 49,625 | 187 | 170 |

[a] Includes signal detachment.

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*Organization of troops in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, January* 31, 1864.

FORT MONROE.

3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph Roberts.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Second Battalion, Maj. James W. H. Stickney.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. Jeptha Garrard.
2d U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. George W. Cole.
2d U. S. Colored Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Francis C. Choate.
Army gun-boats, Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham.
Signal Corps, Capt. Jesse Merrill.

NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD A. WILD.

*African Brigade.*

Col. JOHN H. HOLMAN.

2d North Carolina, Col. Alonzo G. Draper.
3d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Abial G. Chamberlain.
1st U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Elias Wright.

*Not brigaded.*

27th Massachusetts, Col. Horace C. Lee.
20th New York Cavalry, Company M, Capt. Fred. Stewart.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (six companies), Col. Jones Frankle.
7th New York Battery, Lieut. Martin V. McIntyre.

PORTSMOUTH.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES A. HECKMAN.

*HECKMAN'S DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.**

*Third Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM H. P. STEERE.

8th Connecticut (detachment), Lieut. Col. John Coughlin.
23d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. John G. Chambers.
10th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. John Coughlin.
13th New Hampshire, Maj. William Grantman.
9th New Jersey (detachment), Maj. William B. Curlis.
4th Rhode Island, Lieut. Col. Martin P. Buffum.

*District of the Currituck.*

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. LEDLIE.

81st New York, Col. Jacob J. De Forest.
96th New York, Col. Edgar M. Cullen.
98th New York, Col. Frederick F. Wead.
20th New York Cavalry (squadron), Capt. John O'Hara.
20th New York Cavalry, Company H, Capt. James Spencer.
20th New York Cavalry, Company I, Capt. John J. Carroll.
5th Pennsylvania Cavalry (squadron), Capt. George D. Hart.

*Cavalry Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. DAVID M. EVANS.

20th New York (ten companies), Lieut. Col. David M. Evans.
5th Pennsylvania (ten companies), Lieut. Col. William Lewis.

*Artillery.*

Capt. FREDERICK M. FOLLETT.

3d New York Light, Battery M, Capt. John H. Howell.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery A, Lieut. William Stitt.
4th United States, Battery D, Capt. Frederick M. Follett.
5th United States, Battery A, Lieut. Charles P. Muhlenberg.
4th Wisconsin Battery, Capt. George B. Easterly.
13th New York Heavy, Company A, Capt. George A. Bulmer.
13th New York Heavy, Company B, Capt. William Hoffman.
13th New York Heavy, Company C, Capt. G. Fred. Potter.
13th New York Heavy, Company D, Capt. Moses Stevens.

YORKTOWN AND VICINITY.

Brig. Gen. ISAAC J. WISTAR.

*First Brigade.*

Col. ROBERT M. WEST.

11th Connecticut (detachment).
25th Massachusetts (detachment).
118th New York, Col. Oliver Keese, jr.
139th New York, Col. Samuel H. Roberts.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL A. DUNCAN.

4th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. George Rogers.
5th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. James W. Conine.
6th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John W. Ames.

*Cavalry Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR.

1st District of Columbia, Capt. James S. Baker.
1st New York Mounted Rifles, Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk.
11th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George Stetzel.

* First Brigade at Charleston, S. C., and Second Brigade at Albemarle, N. C.

*Unattached.*

148th New York, Col. George M. Guion.

*Artillery.*

Col. ROBERT M. WEST.

8th New York Battery, Lieut. James D. Ladd.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery E, Lieut. Henry Y. Wildey.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery F, Capt. James Belger.
4th U. S. Artillery, Battery L, Lieut. John S. Hunt.
16th New York Heavy Artillery, Capt. Eugene W. Scheibner.

NEWPORT NEWS.

Col. ARTHUR H. DUTTON.

21st Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Thomas F. Burpee.
25th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Orson Moulton.
3d New York Cavalry, Lieut. Col. George W. Lewis.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery H, Capt. William J. Riggs.
16th New York Battery, Lieut. Frank H. Gould.

DRUMMONDTOWN.

10th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Edward H. Powel.

EASTVILLE.

Purnell Legion Maryland Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Robert E. Duvall.

DISTRICT OF SAINT MARY'S.

Brig. Gen. GILMAN MARSTON.

2d New Hampshire, Col. Edward L. Bailey.
5th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Richard E. Cross.
12th New Hampshire, Capt. John F. Langley.
U. S. Cavalry (detachments), Lieut. John Mix.
2d Wisconsin Battery, Lieut. Carl Schalz.

DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK.

Signal detachment, Lieut. Amos M. Tnayer.

DEFENSES OF NEW BERNE.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER.

*Infantry.*

17th Massachusetts, Col. Thomas J. C. Amory.
92d New York, Lieut. Col. Hiram Anderson, jr.
99th New York, Col. David W. Wardrop.
132d New York,* Col. Peter J. Claassen.
19th Wisconsin (nine companies), Lieut. Col. Rollin M. Strong.

*Cavalry.*

12th New York (eight companies), Col. James W. Savage.

*Detachment of 2d North Carolina attached.

*Artillery.*

3d New York Light, Col. Charles H. Stewart.
5th Rhode Island Heavy (seven companies), Col. Henry T. Sisson.
2d Massachusetts Heavy, Capt. Nehemiah P. Fuller.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE.

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. WESSELLS.

*Harland's Brigade.*

Col. FRANCIS BEACH.

8th Connecticut, Col. John E. Ward.
15th Connecticut, Col. Charles L. Upham.
16th Connecticut, Capt. Thomas F. Burke.

*Not brigaded.*

2d North Carolina (recruits), Lieut. Isaiah Conley.
85th New York, Lieut. Col. Will W. Clarke.
101st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Alexander W. Taylor.
103d Pennsylvania, Col. Theodore F. Lehmann.
24th New York Battery, Capt. A. Lester Cady.
12th New York Cavalry (two companies), Capt. John S. Allison.

SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT.

Col. JAMES JOURDAN.

*Beaufort.*

2d North Carolina (detachment), Capt. C. H. Foster.
158th New York, Companies B, D, and E, Capt. William Cuff.

*Fort Macon.*

Lieut. Col. HENRY M. STONE.

2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Companies A and B, Capt. Thomas D. Kimball.
1st U. S. Artillery, Battery C, Lieut. Egbert W. Olcott.

*Morehead City.*

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM H. MCNARY.

158th New York, Companies A, C, F, G, H, I, and K, Lieut. Col. William H. McNary.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company C, Capt. Charles B. Newton.

*Newport Barracks.*

Col. EDWARD H. RIPLEY.

9th Vermont, Lieut. Col. Valentine G. Barney.
19th Wisconsin, Company F, Capt. Martin Scherff.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company D, Capt. Russell H. Conwell.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company A, Lieut. Dutee Johnson, jr.
Mix's New York Cavalry, Companies A and B, Capt. Emory Cummings.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE PAMLICO.

Col. JOSEPH M. MCCRESNEY.

*Washington.*

1st North Carolina, Maj. Charles C. Graves.
58th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Montgomery Martin.
23d New York Battery, Lieut. Thomas Low.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company C, Lieut. Henry P. Williams.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company E, Capt. George G. Hopkins.
12th New York Cavalry (two companies), Capt. Rowland R. West.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February* 1, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK, *Army of the Potomac:*

It is the opinion of General Kelley that Early is advancing on West Virginia and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad with a large force, detached from Lee's army.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 1, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

The information collected here was that Thomas' brigade of Wilcox's division and Walker's brigade of Heth's division were the only infantry in the Shenandoah Valley, and they were in the upper valley; that Rosser's, part of Wickham's, and part of Lee's brigades of cavalry were also in the valley. It was known that these troops did not return to Lee's army after leaving it in December, but remained in the Shenandoah Valley to prevent raids and to collect men, animals, provisions, and forage from the Shenandoah and other valleys accessible to them, such as the valley of the South Branch of the Potomac, &c. No other force from Lee's army is in the valley. Imboden's force is believed to be there, but Jenkins is reported to be with Jones.

Two citizens arrested on the 31st of January (yesterday), upon entering our lines on the Sperryville road left the vicinity of Charlestown, near Harper's Ferry, on January 28. They passed through Middletown and Front Royal on the 29th, at which time they neither saw nor heard anything of the forces of the enemy, except of some cavalry at Harrisonburg. The movement of a force at this season from this army to the upper Shenandoah strong enough to attack and drive out the enemy would be costly to this army in men and animals. It is recommended as a preferable mode of securing the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad that General Kelley be re-enforced from this army, if he requires re-enforcements, by troops sent by railroad through Washington. Positive intelligence from the Shenandoah Valley will be received here early to-morrow morning.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *February* 1, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY, *Commanding Third Corps:*

The following dispatch from General Kilpatrick is respectfully referred to you for report, by direction of the major-general commanding:

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

My pass is still refused at the picket-lines on the main roads to Morton's and Germanna Fords. I can neither send to nor hear from my two main reserves since yesterday morning. This has been the cause.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

HDQRS. FIRST CAV. DIV., PROVOST-MARSHAL'S OFFICE,
*February* 1, 1864.

Capt. T. C. BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that William F. Sullivan, a citizen from Madison County, was sent in by Colonel Chapman and reported to me this afternoon. He desires to take the oath of allegiance and go North. He came in with Colonel Chapman, at his own request. He says that Lomax's brigade is in Orange, near the court-house, and they picket at Robertson River. They consist of the Fifth, Sixth, and Fifteenth Cavalry. The Fourth Virginia is independent and is stationed near Mount Carmel Church.

General Fitz. Lee is at Charlottesville. Young's cavalry brigade is at Fredericksburg; Rosser's in the valley. A division of Ewell's corps went west a month ago to join Longstreet. Pickett's division is near Weldon, N. C.; went there about three weeks ago. Early's division is at Raccoon Ford. The enemy claim 40,000 or 50,000 men in the Army of Northern Virginia.

Respectfully,

GEO. B. SANFORD,
*Captain and Acting Provost-Marshal, First Cav. Division.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, February* 1, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR,
*Washington:*

GENERAL: You will immediately dispatch by railroad to Harper's Ferry the Fourteenth New Hampshire Volunteers and a battery of artillery. The First New York Veteran Cavalry will also be sent to that place to report to General Sullivan or General Kelley. These troops will go ready for immediate service in the field.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 1, 1864—2.30 a. m.
(Received 10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Thoburn reports to Colonel Mulligan that a brigade of infantry crossed the Knobly Mountain into the New Creek Valley yesterday, between Petersburg and Greenland Gap. I think it is the object of the enemy by the movement to cut off my communication with the west from New Creek, and to destroy the immense amount of property of the railroad at Piedmont. This movement of Early is unquestionably a formidable one; I think evidently undertaken for the purpose of capturing or driving our forces out of the valley of the upper Potomac, capturing our supplies at New Creek and this place, and destroying the railroad and its vast amount of property at Piedmont. I therefore deem it my duty to ask that at least four or five regiments of infantry and a battery be sent me at once. These troops can be withdrawn again as soon as the enemy is driven back.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

WASHINGTON, *February* 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General LOCKWOOD,
*Baltimore, Md.:*

Please send immediately to Harper's Ferry such troops as you can spare for a few days, for the protection of the railroad against raids. Reply how many you can send.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 1, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Lieut. Col. W. H. CHESEBROUGH,
*Baltimore, Md.:*

All troops that can be temporarily spared must be sent forward immediately to Harper's Ferry.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CAMDEN STATION, *February* 1, 1864,
(Received 8.40 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

The enemy is reported in heavy force, infantry and cavalry, threatening the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad from Martinsburg to Piedmont. General Kelley regards this as a formidable movement of Early's, undertaken for the purpose of driving our troops out of the valley of the Potomac, and destroying the extensive and important railroad property at Piedmont, Cumberland, &c. As Early takes this movement so soon after his late failure, it appears probable that he has obtained such heavy re-enforcements as he has deemed requisite to accomplish his object. The weather also has been much in his favor. We suspended all trains between Martinsburg and Cumberland last evening. Immediate re-enforcements appear to be required. I have ordered vigorous preparations to be made for transportation of troops from Washington and Baltimore, in case you decide to forward them. If you so decide, please advise the extent, so that we may arrange accordingly.

J. W. GARRETT,
*President Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 1, 1864—1.30 p. m.

J. W. GARRETT,
*President Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:*

General Lockwood is ordered to send troops to General Kelley. Two regiments and a battery are ordered from here.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

WASHINGTON, *February* 1, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland, Md.*, and
Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

General Lockwood has been directed to send you all available troops in his department; also one battery, one regiment of cavalry, and one regiment of infantry have been ordered from this place. As these will soon reach Harper's Ferry, re-enforcements can be drawn from that place.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 1, 1864.
(Received 12 m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Nothing new from Mulligan this morning. The railroad and telegraph yet safe. The cavalry seen near Green Spring last night was doubtless a reconnoitering party to ascertain the strength of the guard at the bridges across the North and South Branches of the Potomac. If they do not interfere with the road below here within the next twenty-four hours it will be safe, as Sullivan's cavalry will arrive at Romney, I trust, to-morrow. Sullivan will send me 1,000 infantry as soon as they can be got off.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 1, 1864.
(Received 3.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The telegram of General-in-Chief just received. I will now perfect my arrangements as rapidly as possible to take the offensive and drive the enemy out of the valley.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 1, 1864—4.30 p. m.
(Received 7.05 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Mulligan reports the enemy's advance down both the New Creek and Patterson's Creek Valleys. In the New Creek Valley he is within 9 miles, skirmishing with his outposts. Please have the troops pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 1, 1864—10.10 p. m.
(Received 12 midnight.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following telegram just received, and transmitted for the information of the General-in-Chief:

CHARLESTON, *February* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

One of my spies returned, and reports the number of rebel forces in front on the 22d of January: Jackson's brigade at Warm Springs, 700; Echols' command in Monroe County; draft over [—] Greenbrier River, 1,200; three companies of cavalry, White's, Moorman's, and McClung's, at Frankfort; Thirty-sixth and Sixtieth [Virginia] Regiments, commanded by McCausland, at the Narrows, 1,100; General Jones' forces at Dublin and Saltville, 3,000. Force of rebel cavalry is on its way to Hurricane Bridge. Forces have been sent by me to meet them.

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CAMDEN STATION, BALTIMORE, *February* 1, 1864.
(Received 10.25 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

I directed our master of transportation to proceed with the mail train west this a. m., at 7.50. This a. m. he telegraphs that he arrived at Cumberland on time, and he learns that five brigades of the enemy passed Burlington this day toward Patterson's Creek, distant some 20 miles, and that another force, under Early and Fitz. Lee, were pressing Mulligan's outposts, 10 miles from New Creek, by latest accounts. General Lockwood informed me that he will send 900 men in all, who, he states, will be ready by 9 this p. m. Our transportation awaits them.

J. W. GARRETT,
*President Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.*

(Copy sent to General Halleck, General-in-Chief.)

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*February* 1, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General LOCKWOOD,
*Baltimore, Md.:*

General Kelley just telegraphs that Mulligan met the enemy at Burlington and drove them back, but anticipates an attack in the morning. If troops do not reach New Creek by daylight they will be of no use. I do not think more than one battery is needed, but that one should be hurried forward. If you forward any more I can spare nearly 5,000.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

BALTIMORE, MD.,
*February* 1, 1864—midnight.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN:

Seven hundred and twenty officers and men left here at 9.30 p. m.

W. H. CHESEBROUGH.

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—3 p. m.

J. W. GARRETT, Esq., *Baltimore:*

Colonel Mulligan reports to-night that a brigade of infantry crossed Knobly Mountain yesterday evening into the New Creek Valley above Greenland Gap. I think this movement of Early's is a formidable one, undertaken for the purpose of driving our troops out of the valley of the upper Potomac and preventing the working of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and destroying its property here and at Piedmont. Since my telegram to Mr. Smith I have deemed it my duty to ask General Halleck for re-enforcements at once. Please give me your aid. If done it must be done at once.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—7 p. m.

H. G. DAVIS, Esq., *Piedmont:*

I suggest to the citizens of Piedmont and Westernport to turn out and blockade all the roads leading into your town; also to arm themselves and be ready to repel any marauding party that approach the town.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—3 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN, *Harper's Ferry:*

Colonel Thoburn reports that a brigade of infantry passed over Knobly Mountain into the New Creek Valley yesterday evening. The movement of Early is a formidable one, and evidently undertaken to drive our troops from the upper Potomac and destroy the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and its vast property here and at Piedmont. I have asked General Halleck to send me four or five regiments of infantry and a battery at once. If you can spare me any force send me all you can. Will send the troops back as soon as the enemy is repelled. Nothing further from Green Spring.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN, *Harper's Ferry:*

Your telegram just received. Nothing new this a. m. I presume the cavalry that was seen near Springfield last night were only a reconnoitering party to ascertain the strength of the guards at the

bridge. The road and telegraph are yet all safe, and unless they attack the road below to-day we will be safe, as your cavalry will arrive at Romney, I hope, to-morrow. Is the First New York along? What time will your troops move? I am in good health, with my harness on all right.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Colonel Mulligan reports the enemy's advance within 9 miles of New Creek. The pickets fighting now.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Tell Chesebrough to send infantry, and to push forward the troops as rapidly as possible. Nothing later than my last telegram.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

The troop trains have passed Green Spring and will be here in a few minutes. Mulligan attacked the enemy's advance on the Greenland Gap road late this evening and drove him back. I am yet undecided in opinion whether the attack at New Creek is not a feint, and that this is the point they intend to assail. Will be ready for them. Have you heard anything from your cavalry? I will communicate with them as soon as possible.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST. DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., February* 1, 1864—2.15 a. m.

*Commanding Officer U. S. Troops at or near Winchester:*

SIR: I have just received the following order from Brigadier-General Sullivan, and hasten to communicate it to you, viz:

Col. R. S. RODGERS:

You will send courier to Winchester to-night, with utmost care, to notify the commanding officer of my expedition that it is my order that he call in all the detachments and move direct to Romney without halt, sending, however, 100 picked men to Wardensville for information, who will then join the column at or near Romney by the mountain road from the former place.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Please to note the time of receipt of the accompanying order and send back any important intelligence that can be communicated verbally. A scout will leave here for Bloomery Gap at 5.45 in the morning, to communicate with you at that place and bring back such information as you may have.

R. S. RODGERS.
*Colonel, Comdg. Third Brig., First Div., Dept. of W. Va.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 1, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS:

Order a cavalry scout to Bloomery Gap, to leave before 6 in the morning, with instructions to remain there during the day, and to communicate with the columns moving from Winchester to Romney in case they get any reliable information as to the enemy's movements; also communicate promptly with you in such case.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *February* 1, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Shall the party sent for information to Wardensville send back to Winchester what they learn there, or shall they merely move through Wardensville to join the column as directed, or shall the main column move from Winchester immediately upon receipt of the order? The courier will leave immediately upon receiving reply.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 1, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS:

The main column will move toward Romney immediately upon receipt of the order. The detachment of 100 men will move to Wardensville at same time and rejoin main column at Romney, taking the mountain road from Wardensville.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., February* 1, 1864.

Capt. W. M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: On the 29th instant I reported that certain stores in Shepherdstown had been robbed of property valued at $80. Subse-

quent examination has proven that the goods were worth about $500. To-day I am informed that the stores were again entered, and a considerable quantity of goods taken. I sent immediately to the commanding officer at Kearneysville to send a guard of 20 men to Shepherdstown to close the stores and direct the proprietors to have their goods transported across the river, which will be done to-morrow. My information leads me to believe that these marauders are from one of the roving bands of rebels who infest the valley, and that they find easily places of concealment among their friends during the day and are ready to meet at an appointed rendezvous when it suits their purpose. I have sent a small party of cavalry for the purpose of picketing the various roads and making every effort to discover their hiding-places, besides taking other means which may possibly lead to the detection of citizens cognizant of these outrages. In regard to closing the stores in Shepherdstown, I would remark that it seems necessary to prevent the enemy being supplied with goods to the extent of their capacity unless a guard is kept constantly at that place, and as a large part of the people of the town and vicinity are known to be bitter in their hostility to the Government it does not appear reasonable that we should contribute to their comfort, and I therefore respectfully recommend that all the stores and shops in the town of Shepherdstown be prohibited. A robbery was committed in the same town in December last, and notice was then given to the merchants that unless they could protect their own property by some organization of their own their establishments must be closed, which they promised, but have failed to do.

Very respectfully, &c.,

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *February* 1, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My courier has returned from Winchester. Captain Bugbee received your order at 6.30 o'clock. Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, with the troops from Averell's command, had gone up the valley, leaving Newtown at 1 o'clock last night. He sent a courier back to Martinsburg, but he has not yet come in. The courier brings no news.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 1, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS:

General Kelley reports the enemy near Green Spring. He has stopped the east-bound train. Be vigilant and cautious. Have all your railroad guards notified of danger.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 1, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

You will immediately have at the depot for embarkation the One hundred and twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with three days' rations, arms, 60 rounds of ammunition, blankets, shelter-tents, and camp-kettles, to report to General Kelley at Cumberland. Cars will be provided. Call upon Colonel Schoonmaker for any details you may require for guard or picket. Have ordered more cavalry to report to you to-morrow.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 1, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

See Mr. Darby; load the men in the cars, and hurry them off as soon as possible.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—7 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Your telegram received. Your proposition approved. Protect the rear of your Ridgeville force by close watch of the gap road. Two regiments will arrive to-night; more will arrive to-morrow. If you are attacked in large force fight them until I can relieve you. I will detain the two regiments that arrive to-night here, for fear the real object of attack is this place.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 1, 1864—12 m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

While you will make the necessary preparations for the defense of your position, you will at the same time make such needful arrangements for an offensive, rapid movement as your best judgment may dictate. Sullivan's cavalry will reach Romney, I trust, to-morrow night. Please keep the suggestion of an offensive movement strictly to yourself. One thousand infantry will leave Harper's Ferry for us to-day.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 1, 1864.

Colonel BARNEY:

Our forces at New Berne are attacked in force; the enemy is at Brice's Creek. Prepare for attack on your front. Have all surplus stores packed. I have sent for arms for your recruits. There is a telegraph operator at Croatan; open communication with that post at once.

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel.*

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NEW BERNE, *February* 1, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Dispatch received.* A section of artillery will be sent at once, and the garrison aroused. Hold on as long as possible, but remember that any persistent defense of the post of New Berne must be made here, not at the outposts. Keep me advised.

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 1, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Col. J. JOURDAN,
*Morehead City:*

Have the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York in readiness to come up at once. A train will be sent down for the men. They are to come without rations. Pickett's division is said to be on our front, and we may expect a siege.

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MOOREHEAD, *February* 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General PALMER:

Please inform me at what time the detached posts at Croatan and Havelock had better be withdrawn to prevent capture. I have no means of determining at this end of the route.

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 2, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

The scouts did not return until late to-day. The information they bring from the Shenandoah Valley, in the vicinity of Luray, is not later than last Wednesday. At that time no movement of troops in the valley was going on, and none reported as about being made.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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*See p. 67.

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*February* 2, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON:
*Commanding First Army Corps:*

We intercepted the following message from the rebel signal station on Clark's Mountain:

Colonel Skinner wishes to be placed on a board to examine the cases of cavalrymen of Imboden's command claimed by Steuart's brigade. Is it approved? Colonel S. applies for an extension of leave of absence four days. Is it approved?

PITZER,
*Major, Aide-de-Camp.*

Respectfully,

WIGGINS and CAMP,
*Signal Officers.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 2, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General LOCKWOOD,
*Baltimore, Md.:*

As you have forwarded one battery and one goes from here, I think they will be sufficient unless others should be asked for.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 2, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 11.45 a. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

Colonel Mulligan reports he drove back the enemy on the New Creek Valley road yesterday evening, and that he is reported falling back on the Patterson's Creek Valley road this morning. Our force is pursuing. Troops arrived from Harper's Ferry this morning. More on the way. Railroad and telegraph yet safe.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Your telegram received. Nothing from Mulligan this a. m. All quiet here. The enemy reported in Romney, 500 cavalry. I trust your cavalry will reach there to-night. I think you had better hold the balance of the troops at Harper's Ferry. I cannot learn the strength of the enemy. Deserters differ widely; some say 10,000, some 20,000. The force I think is large. The One hundred and twenty-third [Ohio] arrived and go to New Creek this a. m.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

WASHINGTON, *February* 2, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

Troops at Harper's Ferry and those arriving from Baltimore and Washington should be pushed forward in sufficient numbers to relieve General Kelley. More will be sent to you if required.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—8 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

What news this a. m.? The One hundred and twenty-third Ohio Infantry arrived and will proceed at once to report to you.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Your telegram received. If the enemy is falling back pursue him at once. Keep yourself advised fully in regard to the force on the Greenland Gap road; also the road from Greenland Gap via the junction of the Moorefield-Alleghany pike. Sullivan's cavalry (four regiments) will arrive in Romney to-night.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND *February* 2, 1864—1 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Unless you are fully satisfied that a rebel force has gone toward Oakland, I think you had better stop One hundred and twenty-third at New Creek. I sent Captain Myers to Frankfort to reconnoiter. Will send One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania to North Branch bridge. All quiet below this point.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—2 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

The telegraph wire east ceased to work about an hour since.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—3 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Messengers just in from below. Our guards have been driven from the bridge below. The enemy reported at Patterson's Creek. The North bridge on fire.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

If possible, get a messenger to our cavalry approaching Romney to-night of Rosser's whereabouts. He fell back toward Frankfort, and I fear will go through Springfield east and escape. Do you want any more troops? The old Ringgolds are now at mouth of Patterson's Creek. Put out fire and repair bridge.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—6 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Rosser captured the company on Patterson's Creek. Recapture it, if possible. Two troop trains arrived at Patterson's Creek. Road and bridge all right below.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

What was the force reported having gone toward Oakland—infantry or cavalry? If cavalry, how would it get through your blockade? Would it not be well to make arrangements to cut them off at Greenland Gap? What is your news from that direction to-day, or from Williamsport? Will send you the One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania to-morrow.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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BALTIMORE, MD., *February* 2, 1864.
(Received 4.55 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War,* and
Major-General HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief, U. S. Army:*

Conductor of express train west telegraphs that he proceeded as far as Green Spring Run, where messenger from Patterson's Creek informed the commander of that post that the bridge over that stream was burned, and that the bridge on the North Branch of the Potomac, within 6 miles of Cumberland, was also burning. It is stated that the company at Patterson's Creek bridge had beeen captured, and that there was fighting west of that point. It was further expected that Cumberland and New Creek would be attacked during the night. The troops ordered from Baltimore were slow in coming to station, but got off at 11.30 last p. m., and a battery also came late this morning and loaded slowly, but got off at 12 o'clock. Nine hundred men only from Baltimore, besides the battery force from Washington, also appeared slowly; but 900 men and

a battery having left this point up to this time. I fear General Kelley's apprehensions of a very formidable attack are being realized, expectations being now entertained that the movement may extend into Pennsylvania, for the procurement of cattle and supplies.

J. W. GARRETT,
*President.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 2. 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS:

Send a cavalry scout from Kearneysville, by way of Smithfield and Berryville, to Winchester, returning by way of Bunker Hill and Martinsburg.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 2, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

A regiment of infantry will be at Martinsburg about noon, and will disembark there. You will hold the cars, however, subject to orders.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864

Captain MYERS,
*North Branch Bridge:*

Can infantry be got across the river? Colonel Mulligan occupies Burlington and the Moorefield Junction to-night and I expect four regiments of cavalry in Romney to-night from General Sullivan's command. I think you might push on to-morrow morning and proceed cautiously on the track of Rosser. He may go east through Springfield. If he does, you must send a messenger to our cavalry at Romney, so he can be cut off. Do you think the enemy were at Green Spring or South Branch bridge?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—5. p. m.

Colonel MOODY,
*North Branch:*

Remain at the bridge to-night. Where is the Ringgold cavalry? Are they at the bridge? What is the damage to the wire?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain MYERS,
*North Branch Bridge:*

If Miller cannot telegraph from Patterson's Creek below, can't you send two men down to the tow-path to a point opposite Number 12, and advise the officer there of the state of matters above. I expect there are two regiments there on the way here.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864—6 p. m.

Colonel MOODY,
*North Branch:*

Please send a messenger to the commanding officer of troop trains and direct him to run back to South Branch bridge and await further orders. Ascertain what rations he has; if out, will send him subsistence to-morrow. Direct him to be on the alert and protect the bridge. The enemy may attempt to destroy to-night.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel HALL,
*Tenth Virginia, Beverly:*

Have you any news? Reports indicate that a rebel force has passed through the mountains. Have you heard of it? Send a scout into Tucker as far as Parsons' Mills. Watch the road in your front. The rebels are active all along our line. Answer.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 2, 1864.

Commander H. K. DAVENPORT, or
Lieut. Commander C. W. FLUSSER,
*U. S. Navy:*

The port of New Berne is now besieged and our communication with the coast cut off. The besieging force is large, but I have no idea of being concerned about this place. The river communication is liable to be cut off now by batteries erected on the river and there are no large gun-boats here to patrol the river.

The Underwriter was this morning boarded, captured, and burned by the enemy in the Neuse River, opposite Fort Anderson. I submit the matter to the senior naval officer, as I have no idea where Commander Davenport is at this time. I have directed this communication both to him and Lieutenant-Commander Flusser, to be delivered wherever either of these officers may be found.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

NEW BERNE, *February* 2, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Lieutenant JOHNSON,
*Commanding, &c.:*

Spike, bury, or conceal your gun ; then gather everything you can and come in quietly. Destroy ammunition you cannot bring. Your men can pack a good deal of their effects if you come slowly. Send a messenger to the commanding officer at Havelock and tell him to do the same thing there and to follow you. When you arrive here report to your regiment and also to me. Answer this and tell me if you perfectly understand it.

You had better not try to burn things, for it might lead to the discovery of what you were doing. You need not wait for the company at Havelock. Let them follow, and you must tell them the best route to come.

PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *February* 3, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Please communicate directly with General B. F. Butler, Fort Monroe, in regard to his proposed movements.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 3, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

I am directed by General Halleck to telegraph you directly in regard to possible co-operation in a movement which I desire to make. Some 8,000 of Lee's army have gone into North Carolina, or perhaps more, and are now attacking New Berne. Can you make a forward movement which will draw Lee's troops from Richmond to your front ? Can that be done as early as Saturday ? Telegraph to what extent you can move.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 3, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

The enemy's camp 20 degrees west of south and distant about 8 miles from this point has been broken up. Troops in line with five wagons in front. No other change.

WIGGINS and CAMP,
*Signal Officers.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 3, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieutenant WIGGINS:

About how many men did you observe in line? Did they move? If so, in what direction? Keep a sharp watch for other movements.

L. B. NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 3, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

One regiment in line. They moved into the woods directly in rear of their old camp. No other movements have occurred.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., February* 3, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Would it not be better to make your proposed cavalry raid on the rear of Early's forces, to cut off or embarrass their retreat by destroying bridges and supplies and felling trees in the roads? By this measure you may enable General Kelley, if he drives them back, to overtake and capture them. The First New York Veteran Cavalry left here yesterday morning to report to you.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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CAMDEN STATION, BALTIMORE, *February* 3, 1864.
(Received 4 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Transportation has been furnished, in every case which has come to my knowledge, with great expedition, and all the movements have thus far been conducted without accident. No complaint has been made to me by General Sullivan of inadequacy of transportation. In one dispatch he remarked that the movement of the trains was slow. As attacks were apprehended from the enemy along the line between Martinsburg and Cumberland, our engineers and conductors were instructed to run the troop trains with great care, and the speed, therefore, was not as great as could have been made if the danger of attack and obstruction upon the track, &c., had not existed. I shall request advice from General Sullivan on this subject, so that if there be any deficiency at any point I may be enabled to correct it. I forwarded the order via Pittsburg last night, and our men are engaged this morning in restoring the telegraph line, which was cut down for 1½ miles, and also reconstructing the bridges at Patterson's Creek and North Branch. We have a large force and reserve of timber at Cumberland, which will enable us to accomplish the work with great rapidity.

J. W. GARRETT,
*President.*

CUMBERLAND, *February* 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Governor BOREMAN,
*Wheeling*.

The enemy has been driven back from the line of the railroad at all points and is now in full retreat, being vigorously pursued by our troops. The damage to the North Branch and Patterson's Creek bridges is but trifling. Will be repaired in two days. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad will be again in working order; telegraph lines will be working this evening.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 3, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Prisoners captured to-day report that Rosser was to have gone by the Northwestern pike toward Winchester and formed a junction with Imboden and then attack Martinsburg, which he supposed weakened by the withdrawal of troops to support me, but your cavalry coming to Romney prevented his plans. You will therefore look out and be ready.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 3, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

If you send 300 or 400 infantry to Greenland Gap, McNeill cannot get out of the Alleghany with cattle. He must come out by the Moorefield and Alleghany pike unless there is some road south of that that I never heard of, or you might send the force to the junction of the Alleghany pike with the Northwestern road. Consult with parties from that country. McNeill ought to be prevented from getting out, if possible.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND *February* 3, 1864—12 m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Captain Myers reports from Frankfort that Rosser went up Patterson's Creek with his prisoners toward Sheets' Mills, where it was reported he had two regiments infantry awaiting his return. Myers says it is understood at Frankfort that Rosser would go out by the Trough road, on east side of South Branch, crossing at Romney.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *February* 3, 1864—2 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Myers reports that he has communicated with Sullivan's cavalry and is in pursuit. I suggest that the cavalry go up east side of South Branch. However, do what you think best when you arrive at the front. Don't let the enemy escape.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 3, 1864—8 a. m.

Colonel MOODY,
*North Branch:*

You will return to Cumberland this a. m. and proceed to New Creek and report to Colonel Mulligan, commanding division.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *February* 3, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Scout from Winchester via Smithfield and Summit Point just in; brought from Winchester 2 deserters from Imboden and 1 from Thomas. Early, they say, went across the mountain with Rosser and Thomas; report our cavalry passing Middletown early Monday morning.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 3, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Telegram received. We hold Green Spring, and are in communication with General Kelley. How far were our pickets at Green Spring driven in? Was any of the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry among the party? Our forces hold Springfield and Romney.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

WM. M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 3, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

You will send Major Bell with 200 picked men up the valley, starting at daylight to-morrow morning with three days' rations and small forage only. Send a reliable officer with few men through Winchester. He will avoid that place and Strasburg, going as far as Woodstock. He will obtain the most reliable information concerning the

enemy's movement. Caution him to secure all the post-offices and mails, the contents of which will be forwarded here without examination. Do you keep a look out on Round Top?

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.
(Received 3.15 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

I shall be ready to move on Saturday. Can General Meade move at all?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*February* 3, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

General Meade is at Philadelphia sick. Your telegram has been referred to the General-in-Chief for answer as to whether the army can move.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 3, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 3.18 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War*, and
Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Dispatch from Brigadier-General Palmer, received at 1 p. m. to-day, says his outposts are attacked and driven in by a force which he thinks to be 15,000 men; I suppose it to be 8,000; two regiments [from each division] of Lee's army having been sent down to North Carolina. I got the information reliably yesterday. I have sent a regiment to re-enforce Colonel Jourdan at Morehead City. Now is the time, if ever, for General Meade to move; the roads are practicable. That will relieve North Carolina at once and leave a movement for me of which I spoke to you.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fortress Monroe, February* 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

SIR: I send you inclosed a copy of a report received from Brigadier-General Palmer at 1 o'clock to-day, and also a report formerly

received, having already sent you by telegraph the substance of the report to-day.*

I have sent forward the Twenty-first Connecticut—about 400 men—to the aid of General Palmer, which is the only infantry regiment I can spare. General Meade could relieve General Palmer at once by making a movement. I can move with 6,000 men, to-wit, 2,000 sabers and 4,000 infantry, with two batteries of artillery, at any moment, from Williamsburg in the direction I indicated to you in conversation. The roads are practicable. There are no troops in Richmond save the City Battalion. Pickett's division has but one brigade in Petersburg. I do not believe that Lee has 20,000 men in front of Meade, because it is thoroughly understood that Meade is in winter quarters. Why can't Meade move on Friday? They are fortifying the road that runs from Richmond in the direction of Danville. They began on Monday with 5,000 negroes, which they have impressed under their new law of Congress. Please advise me upon all these points, and whether I can get any aid for North Carolina in case the attack turns out a siege. I am certain that two regiments from each division of Lee's army have gone south over the Petersburg road, besides all of Pickett's division except one brigade at Petersburg.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February 3, 1864.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
*Commanding New Berne:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch, by the hand of Lieutenant McVey, was received at a quarter to 1 o'clock. He seems to have made all diligence to get here.

I send to Morehead City the Twenty-first Connecticut by the Spaulding; that is the only infantry regiment which I can spare at the present time. Major Bates, Lieutenant McVey, and Colonel Ripley return with her. I need not say to you hold on in any event. If the attack turns into a seige we will be there in the rear to take part in it. I have notified Admiral Lee, so that he may make such naval dispositions as he sees fit. I will also forward by telegraph the substance of your dispatch to the commanding general of the army. The force given as opposed to you is exaggerated. Two regiments of each division of Lee's army, Hoke's brigade of Early's division, and one brigade of Pickett's division is all that is before you. They do not amount to more than 8,000 men, and your force, with plenty of provisions and ammunition, would seem to be amply sufficient. If really necessary you might concentrate from either Plymouth or Washington all the force which could be spared.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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* See Palmer's report of February 1, p. 49.

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 4, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 2.45 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

Nothing important during the night from Colonel Mulligan. When last heard from he was within 12 miles of Moorefield. Prisoners captured report that Rosser intended to have gone east by the Northwestern turnpike to Winchester, and, forming a junction with a force, advance down the Shenandoah Valley, under command of Imboden, attack Martinsburg, believing it had been weakened by the withdrawal of troops to support me, but Sullivan's cavalry arriving at Romney had frustrated his design and forced him toward Moorefield. I have advised Sullivan. The North Branch bridge was repaired last night, and the trains passed over. The Patterson's Creek bridge will be repaired to-day. All quiet and safe west of this on the railroad.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 4, 1864—3 p. m.
(Received 5 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

A dispatch just received from Colonel Mulligan, dated 8 a. m., at the ford 3 miles below Moorefield. The enemy had crossed and were holding it. Mulligan had opened his artillery on him. Sullivan's cavalry had joined him.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *February* 4, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Major Bell left with 200 men at daylight as ordered. Any news?

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *February* 4, 1864.

Lieut. F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Is Major Bell to go through Winchester and Strasburg or to avoid them, and is he to go to Woodstock? Is the small party to go through Winchester and join Major Bell or to return here from Winchester?

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 4, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS, *Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Major Bell will not go through Winchester and Strasburg, but will send a small detachment through those places to rejoin him

above. He will go to Woodstock. The small party will go through and join Major Bell, and will not return until the whole scout is performed.

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., February* 4, 1864.

Maj. WILLIAM BELL, *Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry:*

You will proceed at daylight with 150 men of your own regiment and a detachment of the Fifteenth New York Cavalry up the valley, avoiding Winchester and Strasburg. You will proceed as far as Woodstock. At the most convenient point on this side of Winchester you will detach a reliable officer and 25 men, who will proceed direct through Winchester and Strasburg and join you at Woodstock. He will be directed to seize all the mails in the post-offices and collect all possible information. You will be supplied before marching with three days' rations and forage.

All papers are to be brought to these headquarters without examination.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Buckhannon, W. Va., February* 4, 1864.

Captain MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the within memorial from citizens of the upper end of Lewis County, W. Va., praying a more sufficient protection against thieves and robbers.

Please allow me to say the complaint is by no means groundless. With the forces I have had here under my command I have been unable to afford the protection that is due those people in proportion to population. No section of the county has turned out more soldiers than the one above referred to, and, furthermore, West Virginia has no better sons of which to boast than those living in this section. I have had one company of cavalry and part of another at this post during the winter, the horses of which have been worn out over and over at Beverly by a portion of one of the company in my command stationed there as mounted scouts for Col. A. Moor; therefore, I trust that you will readily perceive my want of men and means to protect a front of at least 60 miles length. May I suggest the propriety of having sent to my command two more companies of the Third Virginia Cavalry, that I may protect this section of country more securely and hurt the enemy worse if he comes en masse? My late company, Capt. T. F. Roane, would be very effective here, and I much desire them for the safety of the county. Please give, if possible, a remedy and what may seem best to you.

I am, your servant, respectfully,

LOT BOWEN,
*Major, Commanding Post.*

P. S.—I have a report at this moment that 100 rebels are coming mounted. If they come I hope they will give a good account of us before they are done.

[Inclosure.]

ANDERSON'S STORE, W. VA.,
*January* 29, 1864.

To Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY, greeting:

We, your humble petitioners, being all loyal citizens, pray to be heard in behalf of our present perilous situation.

First. We represent that we live immediately on the border. That we are daily, or, more properly speaking, nightly, exposed to rebel hordes of guerrillas, who infest the mountains and pounce upon us when and while we are unable to protect ourselves in any degree. There are several roads leading from the settlements into the mountains, any and all of which are used by them in making their raids among us.

Second. The manner of making their raids: They come in quietly and are received by the rebel sympathizers, and remain concealed until they are ready to make a dash, and then from 10 to 20 armed rebels dash upon the citizens in the dead hours of the night, robbing them of whatever valuables may be found, consisting of money, bedclothes, wearing apparel, even down to ladies' dresses and children's shoes and stockings. Some families have been reduced to want in this way. They have even taken the last knife and fork in some instances. They begin the work of robbing as they go out of the neighborhood, and before we can possibly get help they are gone. They have already got nearly every Union horse for several miles round where your petitioners live.

Third. We anticipate worse now soon. We expect the next thing that our cattle will be driven off, as it has been done in the adjoining county (Braxton).

Fourth. The remedy: The only remedy we can conceive of is to have a company or two of men stationed at two points along the line. One company stationed on the head of the West Fork, where they could watch and guard the roads and passes infested by these guerrillas. In like manner let a company be stationed at Centreville, Upshur County, there being a way from that point to the mountains. That is the point of attack where the Upshur County militia were captured.

Fifth. Now let Company A of Tenth Virginia Volunteer Infantry be placed on the head of the West Fork, in Lewis County. That company was mostly raised in that locality, and are well acquainted with the roads leading to the mountains, and can therefore be much more efficient than strangers can be. The same as it regards Company B, same regiment, who were raised in the locality of Centreville. They are well acquainted with the roads and guerrilla haunts.

Lastly, our young and able-bodied men have nearly all gone into the Government service. There are but a very few men, except grey-heads and invalids, left.

Now, we do humbly ask (if it can be done without prejudice to the General Government) you to send the aforesaid Companies A and B to the aforesaid points, and we will continue to show our loyalty, as we have hitherto done, by doing all we can in support of the Government and the suppression of the rebellion.

J. BOUSE.
[And 31 others].

CUMBERLAND, *February* 4, 1864—5 p. m.

Col. N. WILKINSON,
*Clarksburg:*

Your telegram to Colonel Mulligan has been reported to me. You will order the company, as you proposed, to Weston. Put your Bulltown force on their guard. Order them to keep fully posted in regard to the movements of the enemy. Have ordered Colonel Hall to send two companies of the Tenth Virginia on a scout into Webster County. Advise Bowen of your information.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 4, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieutenant RUSSELL,
*New Creek:*

Send out orders to Colonel Snider to send scout of two companies and open communication with Colonel Mulligan. Order the One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania to move to Burlington; to move early in the morning and keep the road well scouted between Burlington and Colonel Mulligan. Is the Twenty-third Illinois at Greenland Gap? If so, order Colonel Quirk to scout out on the Patterson's Creek road, and know if any force should be passing down the valley. I will send the Thirty-fourth Masschusetts Regiment to New Creek to-morrow.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 4, 1864.
(Received 4.20 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

Dispatches from Brigadier-General Palmer, at New Berne, dated 2d February, at 5.15 p. m. The post of Newport, between New Berne and Beaufort, is expected to fall. Colonel Jourdan still holds Morehead City, but may have to evacuate and go to Fort Macon. The naval gun-boat Underwriter has been surprised by the enemy and blown up near New Berne. The railroad is probably cut off between New Berne and Beaufort. The river is still open. Palmer has 3,500 men under his command. They have provisions for 6,000 for ninety days. I will endeavor to re-enforce New Berne by a company of heavy artillery, which is the arm they will need. I telegraphed Major-General Sedgwick as you desired, but have received no answer. I still think the enemy's force is not more than 8,000. May not the movement I suggested when I saw you be the best way to relieve New Berne? I await instructions.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 4, 1864—4 p. m.
(Received 4.30 p. m.)

G. V. FOX, *Assistant Secretary of the Navy:*

Your telegram received. Glad to see you on Saturday. The rebels are besieging New Berne; have captured and blown up the

gun-boat Underwriter. She was surprised. Flusser, with the rest of the fleet, was going to the relief of New Berne, and was at the mouth of Neuse River last night.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 4, 1864—9.30 p. m.
(Received 10.45 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES, *Secretary of the Navy:*

Last evening General Butler informed me that General Palmer reported that his outpost at New Berne had been driven in on the evening of the 1st instant, by a force estimated at 15,000 men. I immediately telegraphed Commander Dornin to send here with all possible dispatch the gun-boats from the Sound, repairing at Baltimore. Commander Davenport, under date of the 2d, in Pamlico Sound, received this evening, reports that he had just received a dispatch from General Palmer, saying that New Berne is now besieged by a very large force, and our communications by Neuse River are liable to be cut off by batteries erected on that river; that the gun-boat Underwriter was that day boarded, captured, and burned by the enemy. The Miami, Commander Flusser, and other gun-boats have gone from Plymouth to New Berne. Commander Davenport earnestly asks to be largely re-enforced. I wish to have four gun-boats, carrying heavy guns, draught not exceeding 8½ feet, double-enders, capable of fighting, one (two would be better) heavy gun on end is preferred. Please let me know what can be done, and when. I am sending extra ammunition for the guns now there.

S. P. LEE,
*Acting Rear-Admiral.*

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NORFOLK, VA., *February* 4, 1864—3.10 p. m.
(Received 4.05 p. m.)

Hon. Senator WILSON, *Washington:*

New Berne was attacked by the enemy on the morning of the 1st instant. Heavy skirmishing and hard fighting was kept up during the day. At night five launches came down the Neuse River and attacked the gun-boat Underwriter; killed and captured all on board, except 5 men. Set the vessel on fire, and about 6 o'clock on morning of 2d her magazine exploded opposite the city with terrible effect. Skirmishing and shelling from Fort Totten was continued through this day, and about 4 p. m. Newport Barracks was taken, and communication with Beaufort cut off. Every man at New Berne was in the field. The town was garrisoned by citizens and every negro capable of shouldering a musket was put under arms. Thus matters stood at 8 p. m. when we left.

GEO. B. SIMPSON,
*Major and Paymaster, U. S. A.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 4, 1864. (Received War Department, 4 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, Fort Monroe:*

Your dispatch of last evening is received. The only troops sent from Lee's army on the Rapidan to North Carolina are two brigades

of infantry and one or two regiments of cavalry, numbering in all between 3,000 and 4,000 men. No portion of Lee's army is in Richmond, unless some of the troops mentioned above have been stopped there. The information upon this head is exact and positive. Two brigades of Pickett's division have been sent recently from James River or the vicinity of Richmond to North Carolina. Lee's army is in my front, on the Rapidan, the advance corps of the two armies being from three to four hours' march apart. The condition of the roads and the present state of the weather render an attempt at a flank movement impossible. The Rapidan in my front is so strongly intrenched that a demonstration upon it would not disturb Lee's army.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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FORT MONROE, *February* 4, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Dispatch received.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 4, 1864.

SIGNAL OFFICER OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C.:*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of services performed by the detachment Signal Corps, U. S. Army, under my command, for the last month:

Second Lieutenant Clyde, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, was assigned to duty with the various picket stations communicating with headquarters, and, when practicable, with station at Mills' Gap. I have heretofore mentioned that the last station is some 7 miles beyond our lines, but as a point of observation is invaluable and has been maintained at the express desire of the general commanding. I have been able to obtain a guard which will be sufficient to protect the signal party, if my instructions are obeyed. Although frequently menaced by the enemy there have been no casualties, and the vigilance of the officers at that station demand special commendation. One of my officers (Lieut. A. C. Merritt) having been absent on leave for the latter part of the month, I was unable to open a new station.

Lieutenants Denicke and Merritt, acting signal officers, are both at Mills' Gap and report hourly all observations made, the arrival of rebel deserters, &c. I am unable to supply the current wants of my party as regards means of transportation, the late raids having rendered to a great extent my horses useless, several having been abandoned and the remainder not serviceable for hard, active service such as we are particularly liable to at any moment. This want of horses is not confined to my party; the cavalry are in nearly the same condition, and receive all the horses sent to this point. My requisitions have not been filled, and there is no prospect of their being so.

I would respectfully suggest that if the same meet with the approbation of the major commanding, a limited number may be sent to this department as soon as possible, thereby placing me in a position to perform signal duty without any drawback in the approaching campaign.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. DENICKE,
*Captain, Commanding Detachment.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
*Martinsburg, Va., February 5*, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The prompt, energetic action and superintendence of the captain deserves special commendation.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C.,
*February 5*, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Army of the Potomac:*

General Butler again asks for a demonstration by your army. Give him such co-operation as you can, and communicate directly with him. All available forces here have been sent to West Virginia.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 5*, 1864—1.45 p. m. (Received 2.10 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Your dispatch is received. I will co-operate with General Butler as far as I can by vigorous demonstrations, and take advantage of such chances as may occur. A flank movement with this army is impossible in the present condition of the roads and state of the weather. Demonstrations in our front at the present time may, however, spoil the chances for the future.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *February 5*, 1864—4 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

A small column of smoke southeast by east from here, distant 5 miles south from Germanna Ford, has been seen irregularly for two hours this p. m. Also, west by north another column, distant 12 miles, has been existing since noon, more regular. I judge them brush-burning. No change at the fords. Batteries still in position.

PAINE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 5, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON:

Hold your corps ready to move to-morrow morning with three days' rations, three or four batteries of artillery, and a few ambulances. Orders will be sent you to-night. Picket-line to be kept as usual. Camp guards to be left. Trains to be left.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 5, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON:

The brigade at Mitchell's Station may be held ready to move, but will not be moved unless especially ordered.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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MITCHELL'S, *February* 5, 1864.

Captain BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

A rumor that the enemy were moving part of his forces was current in camp, and was said to have been received by the signal officer. I never received it officially, and as I could not trace it to any reliable source (the pickets did not report any change) I did not mention it. The enemy's pickets were in front to-day.

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 5, 1864.

The following movements will be made to-morrow, the 6th instant:

1. Brigadier-General Gregg will direct Merritt's division of cavalry to move, with at least one battery of artillery, to Barnett's Ford on the Rapidan, and make demonstrations to cross and attack the enemy there and on the upper Rapidan. General Gregg will also direct General Kilpatrick to move with his division and at least one battery of artillery to the Rapidan, at Culpeper Ford, cross that river, and make demonstrations upon the enemy's right. The artillery of this division will not cross the Rapidan, but will be left on this side with a strong guard. The cavalry picket-lines and patrols will be left as usual. Strong camp and train guards will be left. The demonstration will be continued through Sunday, the 7th, and Monday morning. The cavalry will return to its former position by Monday evening, unless otherwise ordered.

2. The First Corps, Major-General Newton commanding, will move to the vicinity of Raccoon Ford, with at least three batteries of artillery, and make demonstrations to cross the river at that point or in that vicinity, through Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, returning to its present camp Monday evening, unless otherwise ordered. The brigade at Mitchell's Station will remain as now posted.

3. The Second Corps, Major-General Warren commanding, will move to the vicinity of Morton's Ford, with at least three batteries of artillery, and make demonstrations to cross the river at that point or in that vicinity, through Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, returning to its present camp Monday evening, unless otherwise ordered.

4. The troops will take with them three days' rations, such ambulances as may be absolutely required for the troops, and such light wagons as may be necessary for headquarters.

5. The artillery left in camp and the ammunition and ambulance trains, medical and hospital wagons, will be held ready to move at a moment's notice.

6. The picket-lines will be left as usual, and strong guards will be left to take care of the camp and trains.

7. The Third and Sixth Corps will be ready to move at a moment's notice, provided in the same manner as the First and Second Corps, with the same preparations as these corps in respect to artillery, ammunition trains, &c.

8. The commanders of the First and Second Corps and the cavalry divisions will keep the commanding general constantly and promptly advised of their progress, of the dispositions of the enemy, and of everything of importance that takes place.

9. The movements ordered will be commenced to-morrow at 7 a. m., or as soon thereafter as practicable.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

The general commanding directs that you have your command ready to move to-morrow at 7 a. m., with not less than three days' rations and forage, if possible. Picket-lines to be left as usual, and very strong camp guards and train guards to be left. You will take one battery with your command. Full instructions will be sent you to-night. Acknowledge receipt of this.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 5, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: I inclose you a circular* of the movements of the troops to-morrow. The general commanding directs that you carry out the orders laid down in the circular for your division, being careful to leave a strong guard with the battery this side of the river, and make frequent reports of your progress and of the movements and dispositions of the enemy.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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*See p. 515.

CUMBERLAND, *February* 5, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 10 a. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

No news from Colonel Mulligan during the night. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad all right again.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 5, 1864—10 a. m.

Governor BOREMAN,
*Wheeling:*

Just received a dispatch from Colonel Mulligan. After six hours' fighting he has driven Early from Moorefield, and his cavalry was pursuing and was sharply engaged with Rosser on the South Fork at the date of dispatch.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 5, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant RUSSELL,
*New Creek:*

Send the One hundred and thirty-ninth [Pennsylvania] out. Keep me fully advised. Present to Mrs. Mulligan my profound congratulations for the success of her gallant husband.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *February* 5, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE.
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have sent 50 cavalry to remain at Bunker Hill to-night. Twenty-five sent out by Colonel Schoonmaker will join them and will go to Winchester to-morrow, if possible.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 5, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS:

Your scout to-morrow need go no farther than Bunker Hill, unless they receive notice that Major Bell needs assistance. Cavalry from this point is in Winchester to-night, and more will be there to-morrow.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

WM. M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *February* 5, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Major Bell has returned; went within 10 miles of Woodstock, on the mountain road; saw enemy's pickets on his right; passed through Winchester at 2 p. m.; the enemy left just before; says there is nothing between Winchester and Woodstock but Imboden's force, said to be about 800 cavalry and 1,100 mounted infantry.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Green Spring, Va., February* 5, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to instructions from General Kelley of this a. m., I have sent out a force of 300 men, under command of Maj. J. M. Willett, Eighth New York Volunteer Artillery. They will go to Romney this p. m.; took two days' rations. The telegraph operator, with an escort, is at work putting up the line to Springfield. I expect communication through to-night. May I ask that you will send me some regimental consolidated morning reports, as I can then send you a correct report of my command? I have detachments of four regiments.

Awaiting your instructions, I am, sir, very respectfully,

W. W. BATES,
*Lieut. Col. Eighth New York Vol. Artillery, Comdg.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 5, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe, Va.:*

General Sedgwick is very positive that only 3,000 or 4,000 men have been detached from Lee's army. You will adopt such measures in regard to North Carolina as you may deem best, calling on the admiral for such naval assistance as you may require.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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FORT MONROE, *February* 5, 1864.
(Received 12.40 p. m.)

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Dispatch received from New Berne, dated February 3. The enemy have retired on Kinston. New Berne is relieved.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 5. 1864—12 noon.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe, Va.:*

Your letter of the 3d just received. You will use your forces in Virginia as you may deem best for the relief of North Carolina.

All available troops from this place and Maryland have been sent to West Virginia. General Sedgwick has been asked to give you such co-operation as he can, and to communicate directly with you by telegraph.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
*Fortress Monroe, February 5*, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I send inclosed for your perusal the information I have acquired of the enemy's forces and dispositions about Richmond. The letter commencing "Dear Sir," on the first page, is a cipher letter to me from a lady in Richmond, with whom I am in correspondence. The bearer of the letter brought me a private token, showing that he was to be trusted. There are not now in Lee's army or about Richmond 30,000 men. I can get no co-operation from Sedgwick. Forty thousand men on the south side of the James would be sufficient for the object of taking and permanently holding Richmond. The roads have been good up to to-day. You will see that the prisoners are to be sent away to Georgia. Now, or never, is the time to strike. On Sunday I shall make a dash with 6,000 men, all I have that can possibly be spared. If we win, it will pay the cost; if we fail, it will at least be in an attempt to do our duty and rescue our friends. New Berne is relieved, and, I believe, permanently.

I have marked this "Private and immediate," so that it shall at once come into your hands.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—Since writing the above Sedgwick telegraphs me as follows:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 5*, 1864—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Commanding:*

A dispatch from the General-in-Chief directs such co-operation with you as I can give. I will be ready to do so on Sunday, the 7th instant, by vigorous demonstrations in my front, unless the weather should render it impossible.

J. SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

I have answered as follows:

HEADQUARTERS,
*Fortress Monroe, February 5*, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. SEDGWICK,
*Commanding, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

Can you not make it to-morrow without regard to weather? I hope to strike the point Sunday morning at 6 o'clock.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

So we may get some co-operation. All the better. We will do our duty.

B. F. B.

[Inclosures.]

JANUARY 30, 1864.

DEAR SIR: It is intended to remove to Georgia very soon all the Federal prisoners; butchers and bakers to go at once. They are already notified and selected. Quaker [a Union man whom I know.—B. F. B.] knows this to be true. Are building batteries on the Danville road.

This from Quaker: Beware of new and rash council! Beware! This I send you by direction of all your friends. No attempt should be made with less than 30,000 cavalry, from 10,000 to 15,000 infantry to support them, amounting in all to 40,000 or 45,000 troops. Do not underrate their strength and desperation. Forces could probably be called into action in from five to ten days; 25,000, mostly artillery. Hoke's and Kemper's brigades gone to North Carolina; Pickett's in or about Petersburg. Three regiments of cavalry disbanded by General Lee for want of horses. Morgan is applying for 1,000 choice men for a raid.

FEBRUARY 4, 1864.

GENERAL. Well, my boy, where did you get that letter from?

Miss Van Lew gave it to me. I stayed for a week with Miss Van Lew before I came away. Miss Lizzie said she wanted to send you a letter, and I said I would bring it. Miss Lizzie said you would take care of me. I left there last Saturday night. Miss Lizzie told me what to tell you.

GENERAL. Well, what did she tell you to say? You need have no fear here.

She told me to tell you of the situation of the army. Mr. Palmer got all the information he could for you. Lee has got about 25,000 men; there are about 15,000 men at Petersburg. The City Battalion and two companies (Maryland companies) are at Richmond, and about 1,800 or 2,000 at Chaffin's and Drewry's Bluffs. Mr. Palmer said there were two brigades gone to North Carolina about a week before I left. He found out, though, just before I came away, that one of them had stopped at Petersburg. The two brigades that went were Hoke's and Kemper's. He thought that what available force could be got into Richmond in four or five days was from 25,000 to 30,000 men. He said to say to you that Richmond could be taken easier now than at any other time since the war began. He thought that it would take about 10,000 cavalry and 30,000 infantry.

GENERAL. Miss Van Lew says something in her letter about Quaker.

There is a man there goes by the name of Quaker. That is not his name, but he says he does not wish any one to know his name; he does not wish to be known by any other name. They are sending off the Federal prisoners to Georgia. Mr. Palmer said he had understood that Lee was there in Richmond in secret session there; but he said that was not reliable. Lee has about 25,000 available men. Miss Van Lew said not to undervalue Lee's force. Quaker said his plan to take Richmond would be to make a feint on Petersburg; let Meade engage Lee on the Rappahannock; send 200 or 300 men and land them at the White House on the other side of Richmond, so as to attract attention; then have 10,000 cavalry to go up in the evening, and then rush into Richmond the next morning.

GENERAL. How did you get through?

Mr. Holmes got a man to bring me to guide me. He paid him $1,000 in Confederate money, and he brought me to the Chickahominy and left me there. He fooled me. I came across the river. I got a boat. I don't think there are any men on the Chickahominy, or only a few cavalry. There are none nearer than Lee's army. At Chaffin's farm there is about a regiment. He told me to tell you that Drewry's Bluff is the strongest point; he said you must come around Richmond on the other side. Morgan is applying for 1,000 men. The papers say he is going to make a raid into Kentucky. I don't believe that, though, for if he was the papers would not say so. Miss Van Lew said that all the women ought to be kept from passing from Baltimore to Richmond. She said they did a great deal of harm. She also said that there was a Mrs. Graves who carried a mail through to Portsmouth. She hoped you would catch her. The last time she brought a mail into Portsmouth she came in a wagon selling corn.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 5, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

Your dispatch received. I will make the demonstration to-morrow.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS WISTAR'S DIVISION,
*Fort Magruder, February* 5, 1864.

Col. S. P. SPEAR,
*Commanding Cavalry Brigade:*

COLONEL: You will march to-morrow morning at 11 a. m. with Captain Hill's company (F), First New York Mounted Rifles, in advance, passing all other troops and keeping right on. At New Kent Court-House it is expected that Captain Hill will ride down and capture the pickets, by having picked horses in advance; the same with the picket at Baltimore Cross-Roads. At Bottom's Bridge is a rebel picket of 20 men; the bridge must be carried without firing, if possible. There is believed to be a practicable ford on each side of it. You will leave 100 men of the First District Cavalry to hold the bridge until the arrival of the infantry, some hours later. One mile and a half on a hill on your right hand are encamped about 250 effective men, of the Holcombe Legion (rebel). If they don't attack you pay them no attention, but push right on at as rapid a rate as your horses can stand, in order to surprise Battery Number 2, near Richmond; having surprised, captured, or passed that, you will dash forward. At Rocketts a detachment of 250 of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Major Stratton, previously instructed and placed at the head of the column, will break off to the left and destroy the navy-yard. Next, the Third New York, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, will break off to the left to attend to the Libby Prison and other public buildings. This detachment will then cross Mayo's Bridge, dash up on the other side and seize the bridge to Belle Island, liberating the prisoners, who will cross by Petersburg railroad bridge,

the Third New York returning across Mayo's Bridge, burning it behind them, together with the Danville bridge; and after the prisoners have crossed it (the Mayo bridge) at Sixteenth street, Colonel Onderdonk, with 250 of his regiment, will turn off to the right and destroy the Central Railroad depot and contents at corner Broad and Sixteenth streets, and then the Fredericksburg Railroad depot at Broad and Eighth streets, being careful to cut the telegraph the first thing. At Twelfth street, or sooner, Major Wheelan, with 300 of First New York Mounted Rifles, will turn to the right and capture Jeff. Davis at his residence, corner Twelfth and Marshall streets. The Fifth Pennsylvania, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, will keep right on up Main or Cary streets to Eighth street, where they will cooperate in the attack on Belle Island by the Third New York on the opposite side of the river, and then destroy the Tredegar Iron-Works and numerous public buildings, factories, and store-houses adjacent. Yourself, with the remainder of the Eleventh Pennsylvania and the First District Cavalry, will proceed direct to the Capitol square and remain there as a reserve to support the various detachments. Each detachment will be instructed to report to you there when its duties are performed, except Major Wheelan's detachment, which, with their prisoner, if taken, will at once make their way back by direct road to Bottom's Bridge and join the infantry column at that point or beyond. All the officers designated to command detachments will be thoroughly instructed by you on the road, and their proper and convenient places in line assigned. Other instructions have been given you verbally. You will familiarize your principal officers with them carefully en route. You will be safe in Richmond for about three hours, after which, and possibly two hours, your retreat will be menaced by the troops from Chaffin's farm.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, February 5*, 1864.

Colonel MCCHESNEY,
*Commanding Sub-district of Pamlico:*

COLONEL: Brigadier-General Palmer, commanding, directs me to say that he is awaiting with some anxiety reliable intelligence from you, rumors having reached him to the effect that you were threatened by a force of the enemy. Should such be the case prompt measures will be adopted for your re-enforcement. The enemy, whose force is ascertained to have exceeded 15,000, has retired from our front, and the line of the railroad toward Morehead is now being reconnoitered to determine if the force that attacked Newport simultaneously with the advance upon New Berne has also been withdrawn. At this moment we are without reliable intelligence from Newport and Morehead, the communications by railroad and telegraph having been cut on the afternoon of the 2d instant. So far as ascertained, the success of the enemy has been inconsiderable and our own loss small.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, N. C.,
*February* 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I have been attacked in force. Communications with New Berne severed. My loss is light. I am strong in my position at Morehead, Beaufort, and Fort Macon. The Spaulding has arrived. Am re-enforced by the Twenty-first Connecticut. I will detain the Spaulding for the result of my intended movement. I march at once to attack the enemy where I can find him. My command consists of the Ninth Vermont, Twenty-first Connecticut, and 60 cavalry, detachments of Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery armed as infantry. Had a dispatch from General Palmer per steamer; he is all right. I will hold my present position, and think I can retake my old line and hold it. Will try and open communication with General Palmer by rail. Be assured that all that can be done will be done. Have no field artillery; the enemy has six pieces; will put 24-pounder howitzer on railroad car. I send this by the New Berne. One hundred and fifty-eighth New York at New Berne.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 6, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON,
*Commanding First Army Corps*, and
Major-General WARREN,
*Commanding Second Army Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you communicate, co-operate, and support each other, if necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 6, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Birney has been ordered to move to Summerduck River with two divisions to support you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 6, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Our cavalry have crossed the Robertson River and are now passing the Locust Dale road. The enemy's pickets are falling back.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 6, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Can see no more of the cavalry; it is too misty.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 6, 1864—2 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The major-general commanding desires you to proceed to Morton's Ford, and if the brigades that have crossed the river are not able to maintain themselves on the other side he directs that they be withdrawn to this side.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
*February* 6, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I felt quite unwell this morning and did not go out with the command to make the demonstration, but I am ready to go now. What more shall we do than General Caldwell has done?

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 6, 1864—2.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The movement was intended as a demonstration only, but if, in your judgment, you can attack the enemy successfully, without great loss, do so. Secure your withdrawal to this side. General Prince is ordered to move up and support you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*February* 6, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

I have just come from the south side of the Rapidan, and have withdrawn all my force except about 150 men. I have seen General Sedgwick's note to you. General Hays was of the same opinion as General S. We have had about 200 men wounded, many of them seriously; but few were killed, but more will die from their wounds. The enemy show very large fires on both our right and left, but none on the center. Wounded have all been brought off and dead buried.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 6, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you move with two divisions of your corps on the road to Raccoon Ford about as far as Summerduck River or the church, and inform General Newton, commanding First Corps, that you are ready to support him. Direct General Prince to move toward Morton's Ford, through Stevensburg, and report to commander of the Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, *February* 6, 1864.

Col. C. Ross SMITH,
*Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to report that 2,594 men are with General Merritt. Captain Norris, Second U. S. Cavalry, commanding camp of Reserve Brigade, reports this evening, at 4.30 p. m., that the enemy approached at Somerville Ford with about 100 men. He has sent to investigate.

T. C. BACON,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FEBRUARY 6, 1864—11.35 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The commanding general directs that you instruct General Merritt to return with his command in the course of to-morrow to the position occupied by his troops before the movement of to-day. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 6, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The commanding general directs that you instruct General Kilpatrick not to take his artillery or trains across the river, and to-morrow to recross the river with his troops and take up again the position occupied by him before the movement.

Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*February* 6, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: My people are crossing without opposition at Culpeper Ford. We found a small picket here of 6 men. I have been unable as yet to ascertain the strength of the enemy on my front. I will keep you advised from time to time.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General, Volunteers.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*February* 6, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

COLONEL: I have crossed the river with the larger portion of my cavalry. I found but a few rebels, who immediately retired, and continue to retire as my men advance. I find the ford very bad: impossible for artillery or wagons to cross. I have sent parties down the river to Ely's Ford and up the river in the direction of Germanna Ford. I have also advanced some of my people across the plank road on the old pike, but can find nothing of the enemy. Some of Hampton's cavalry have been doing the picketing at these fords. I shall move my cavalry, save my artillery support, up the river in the direction of Germanna Ford and Robertson's Tavern, and try and find the enemy's right. Their lines are reported to run from Verdierville to Orange Court-House, bending toward Mine Run. As I can find but small parties of the enemy here I would ask for further instructions, and would suggest that I be permitted to move my artillery and wagons with the artillery supports up to the Germanna Ford, on the north side, my cavalry moving up on this (the south) side. Prisoners report that Hampton's entire cavalry division is encamped at or near Hamilton's Crossing near Fredericksburg. Messenger will reach me best by crossing at Germanna Ford.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

The general commanding directs that you recross the river to-morrow with your command and take up again the position occupied by your troops before the movement.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 6, 1864—11.30 a. m.
(Received 2 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Sullivan reports Imboden's force at Strasburg. I move back a portion of my force to strengthen Martinsburg and other points on the eastern part of my line. Nothing from Kanawha since my last telegram.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

---

CUMBERLAND *February* 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

I have sent messenger to Colonel Fitz Simmons and Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, but their horses are badly broken down, I learn, and they may not be in condition to carry out your wishes. If my messenger reaches them he will bring back an answer. The Thirty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry will leave for the Ferry as soon as I can get cars. The Fourteenth New Hampshire will follow as soon as cars can be had.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *February* 6, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS:

Can Major Bell form any idea of the direction Imboden took when he left Winchester?

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, VA., *February* 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN:

Major Bell thinks that Imboden came into Winchester as soon as he left, as his rear guard were driven out of Winchester by the enemy.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CHARLESTON, W. VA., *February* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

DEAR GENERAL: Please excuse my liberty in addressing you direct, but this letter has not for its objects complaints or dissatisfaction on my part; rather duty.

Since the capture of Brigadier-General Scammon it becomes my duty to inform you of the state of affairs in this valley. In assuming command I was obliged to correct many irregularities that I will not mention. It will, I trust, be satisfactory to you to know that I work day and night to straighten out this somewhat tangled web of

affairs, but I cannot with my utmost assiduity accomplish what I would and what is necessary without some additional assistance. Colonel Jones, who will bear to you this letter, will, I hope, make a full statement to you.

Should the interests of the service demand that I be placed in command of this division, I would respectfully request that some competent officer be ordered here at once to verify and examine the accounts of the quartermaster's, commissary, and ordnance departments. However, general, I would candidly state that I do not wish this command. You will readily believe me when I state that I am more fitted for executive than administrative duties. To return to my cavalry would afford me the greatest happiness. Send here any one you choose, junior or senior to me. I shall always be ready to act in a soldierly and faithful manner. Whatever your orders I shall obey them strictly and cheerfully, but please let me remind you, general, that my greatest ambition is to be your chief of cavalry, and let me assure you that I shall labor that you may never have cause to regret it.

Hoping that this communication will not fail to meet with your consideration,

I remain, general, with sincere respect, your obedient servant,

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *February* 6, 1864.

Colonel RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, Va.:*

Direct Colonel Schoonmaker to go to Winchester with all his available cavalry at once. My cavalry are returning from Moorefield by way of Romney.

J. C. SULLIVAN.

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Dispatch from your headquarters received through Colonel Rodgers. The command sent out by General Kelley has not yet returned. I have, in consequence, hardly a sufficiency of horses to perform the picket duty at this post. If you desire, these can be relieved and sent. My instructions from department headquarters are to obey all orders from you until otherwise ordered; therefore please let all your communications be sent me direct as the commanding officer of an organized division in the department. I cannot consistently receive orders from an officer of same rank commanding a brigade in same department. I referred the matter of rank to the colonel, who desires me to learn from you the date of his muster. Answer.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

Dispatch received. Signal officers report everything quiet on all the outposts. Sent Major Foley with 75 men to Winchester last evening; he stayed at Bunker Hill last night. I am using all vigilance in every direction.

Please inform me of all matters of importance.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Dispatch received. I have ordered all the effective force of the Third Brigade at once to Winchester to await the arrival of the forces of my command which left Moorefield this morning. The scout sent yesterday evening has just returned; reports nothing at Winchester. The forces that were there yesterday consisted of 160 of Imboden's command, who had come from Mount Jackson with the expectation of finding some Union officers at Miss Ginn's wedding.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

---

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

Major Foley has just returned from Winchester. The forces that were in Winchester yesterday consisted of 160 men of Imboden's command, who had come all the way from Mount Jackson for the purpose of capturing some officers that they expected were to be at the wedding of Miss Ginn. He reports that the entire country in that direction is open. It is rumored, the major says, amongst the enemy that there is a large force collecting at Martinsburg to move down the valley soon.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

Order the Twenty-third Illinois, at Greenland Gap, to scout with a good strong scout to Petersburg and Moorefield. If you do not do this, McNeill will be right back there. Send the One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania out also in that direction.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *February* 6, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Do you propose to leave Colonel Thoburn to occupy Burlington? If so, direct him to keep out small infantry scouts, in the command of intelligent officers or non-commissioned officers, constantly in the mountains between him and the South Branch, and if possible to capture that infernal scoundrel Mike Kane and his gang. We must be more vigilant hereafter.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 6, 1864—3 p. m.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Your telegram received. Your arrangements are satisfactory; my order of this morning is accordingly revoked. Please give me your views fully by letter in regard to the policy of occupying Greenland Gap permanently.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Colonel FITZ SIMMONS and
Lieutenant-Colonel THOMPSON,
*Romney:*

General Sullivan reports Imboden at Strasburg and desires your force to proceed in that direction and get in his rear and cut him off, if possible. Answer.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 6, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe:*

The movement commenced early this morning. The artillery opened at 11 a. m. The firing still continues. How are matters progressing with you?

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 6, 1864.
(Received 5.30 p. m.)

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

A movement commenced this morning at 9 o'clock. Shall strike Sunday morning at 5 o'clock. Keep up demonstration until after that time. Lee has but 25,000 troops. Perhaps it will do to press him on Sunday afternoon in earnest.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE,
*New Berne, February* 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I arrived here yesterday, finding all quiet, the enemy having retired from in front of New Berne. From information received, it is believed that the enemy designed making a combined and vigorous assault, but one of the generals (Barton) failed to come up in time. The fort at Newport Barracks was taken by the enemy; one gun was saved. It is proposed to investigate the affair. I will go there as soon as the railroad is repaired. The railroad is not badly damaged. The bridge over Newport River was partially damaged, but the bridge at Havelock was destroyed; a culvert was also blown up, but repairs will be made by to-morrow evening (Sunday). I shall be ready to return by Wednesday. General Palmer will send a report by the Spaulding. Before leaving I will have everything concerning the late attack, so that I may give you a detailed report.

With much respect, I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS U. FARQUHAR,
*Chief Engineer, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.*

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HDQRS. FORCES AND DEFENSES OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 6, 1864.

Colonel SAVAGE,
*Twelfth New York Cavalry:*

COLONEL: I am instructed by the general commanding to say to you that it will be necessary for you to keep a careful, constant lookout for that part of our front not immediately under the eye of Colonel Claassen's regiment, for as yet we have no sort of communication with him except by mounted messengers.

To-morrow telegraphic communication will probably be secured, and perhaps the trains may then commence running. Until that time the general depends entirely upon your cavalry to keep him informed of the condition of affairs in front. The general, therefore, directs you to retain your camp, as previously directed, at Camp Palmer, establishing one squadron at Camp Judson for picket duty; to make scouts on the Trent, Neuse, and Washington roads, and to Beech Grove; and in fact to take care of all approaches to our position here. The general wishes to caution you particularly of the danger of leaving the Washington road unguarded.

You will send word to Colonel Claassen that the general wishes him (if he has not already done it) to send a company to occupy Beech Grove. You will leave there six or eight troopers for duty as vedettes and messengers for that post. Say also to Colonel Claassen re-enforcements, probably of one regiment, will probably be sent him soon. The general desires you to communicate the substance of these directions to Colonel Claassen. He, of course, leaves the execution of the details to your and Colonel C.'s best judgment. Keep the headquarters advised of the condition of your men and horses.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864—noon. (Received 12.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

Vigorous demonstrations were made yesterday. We lost 200 in killed and wounded at Morton's Ford last evening. We punished the enemy sharply and took about 60 prisoners. The operation is still going on. Information from Harrisonburg Wednesday last makes Early and Imboden moving on Winchester. Our scouts from the valley will be in to-night or to-morrow morning. One result of the co-operation with General Butler has been to prove that it has spoilt the best chance we had for a successful attack on the Rapidan.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864—noon. (Received 12.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe, Va.:*

The operation is still going on. We have made an attack on our extreme right. We lost 200 in killed and wounded last evening at Morton's Ford.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

---

FORT MONROE, *February 7*, 1864—(Received 5.30 p. m.)

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Despatch received. All has gone well with us up to the time when movement went beyond line of telegraph. I have not heard since.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General NEWTON, *Commanding First Corps:*

A large force of the enemy has collected in Warren's front. Possibly they might attempt to attack him. Communicate with him and be prepared to move to him in the event of its being needed. General Birney should close up on you as soon as it is light, and, if required, move with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Morton's Ford, February 7*, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON and
Major-General BIRNEY:

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw to your camps, the movements being simultaneous with those of General Warren, who will commence at dusk.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON:

The major-general commanding directs that the pontoon train at Culpeper be sent back to Rappahanock Station, to move after sunset this evening.

S. F. BARSTOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February 7*, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Our troops are having a lively artillery duel with the enemy about southwest from this point.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

---

RACCOON FORD, *February 7*, 1864—11.40 a. m.

WIGGINS and CAMP,
*Signal Officers:*

What is that firing at the southwest? Keep us informed whether the enemy are advancing from that quarter. Let the commanding officer at Culpeper also know.

J. NEWTON,
*Major-General.*

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February 7*, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON:

The firing is between our artillery, with the cavalry, and the enemy s. Neither side seems to be gaining any.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Lieutenant WIGGINS:

Report to me all firing, from whence it proceeds, and the cause.

NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.*

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February 7*, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

There is now no firing. So misty cannot see the position of our cavalry now.

WIGGINS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 7, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

Look for a signal flag on or near Stony Mountain, opposite Raccoon Ford, from 2 p. m. till dark. Castle will be there, and you are directed to open with him, if possible. Do not leave the mountain to-night at all.

NORTON.

---

PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

I know of no such mountain as Stony Mountain, near Raccoon Ford. Do you mean Piney Mountain?

PAINE.

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 7, 1864—2 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER:

About a brigade of rebel infantry have bivouacked near Robertson's Ford. No change seen in enemy's camp.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 7, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

Stony Mountain is opposite Morton's Ford. You will find it marked on the Culpeper sheet of your large map. Look carefully and continually for flags in direction of Morton's and Raccoon Fords. Is there any one on Second Corps station?

NORTON.

---

PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 7, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

A pontoon train reached Culpeper about half an hour ago from toward Mitchell's Station. Cannot see in the direction you mention, on account of smoke.

PAINE.

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 7, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

The enemy have a battery in the old works near the railroad bridge again. Our cavalry are coming in. They are at Locust Dale.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
*February 7*, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following report has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded for the information of the general commanding:

PONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*February 7*, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

I observe the enemy in heavy force at Raccoon and Morton's Fords, and occupy their line of intrenchments between those places and for 3 miles east of the latter ford. Beyond that point can discover only pickets. Two batteries are in position near Mountain Run. Their camps in rear of the above-named fords appear not to have been disturbed. I judge full two brigades to be in support of the batteries at Somerville Ford. The condition of the atmosphere prevents more extended or clearer observation.

PAINE,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

Very respectfully,

L. B. NORTON,
*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.*

---

PONY MOUNTAIN, *February 7*, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Are there any signs of a movement to the rear?

PAINE.

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

No signs of any move either way. Ours was only a reconnaissance. Let me know when you open with Castle.

NORTON.

---

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*February 7*, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

The enemy discovered our withdrawal about 3 or 4 a. m., and made such efforts to get between my little party over there and the river that they were withdrawn. Now he has advanced a strong line of skirmishers to about 100 yards of the stream, and again covers our approach to the ford. I may try to harass them a little with artillery.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864—6 a. m.

General BIRNEY:

It would be better, as soon as it is daylight, to close up on Newton.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 7*, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The major-general commanding deems it desirable that the pickets of General Merritt and General Kilpatrick should be instructed to be particularly vigilant for several nights.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

CAVALRY CORPS, *February 7*, 1864.

T. C. BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division:*

Send a party at once to General Merritt, and order him to return. Have you heard anything of the officer who took the first order to return? Let me know as soon as you hear from General Merritt.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps.*

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CULPEPER, *February 7*, 1864—6 p. m.

Col. C. R. SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

I have not heard from the general since the dispatch of this a. m. Will telegraph as soon as I hear from him. A second party left here about 12 m. to-day, with orders to General Merritt to return. Neither of the parties who took the orders have been heard from yet, but the last party that went knew the exact route to take, having brought the dispatch of this morning from General Merritt, and the orders have probably reached him ere this.

T. C. BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE,
*February 7*, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report all quiet. The deserter [Ormsby] from the Second Massachusetts Cavalry, captured in arms against the United States, was convicted by drum-head court-martial and shot at 12 this noon.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February 7*, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the telegram of yesterday of the general commanding in regard to the "policy of

occupying Greenland Gap permanently." I am of the opinion that Burlington and Greenland Gap are the proper exterior points for observation and the defense of this post and an extended tract of railroad. I would build block-houses at both mouths of the gap and erect favorable earth-works for a section of artillery. Here I would station a strong regiment with two companies of cavalry to keep the country scoured on both sides of the New Creek range into Petersburg and by the Moorefield and Alleghany Junction to Inskip's Ford on the South Branch, overlooking Moorefield. At Burlington I would erect strong works, equal to the occupation of three regiments of infantry and two sections of artillery. Here, too, should be stationed two mounted regiments, less the two companies occupying the gap. These forces would hold both junctions (Mill Creek and Patterson's) and scout to Romney and Moorefield unceasingly. For a month or more I would bivouac the mounted regiments in the neighborhood of Reynolds' Gap (between 2 and 3 miles from north end of Old Fields), and let them consume the abundant hay and corn of that region. This would properly do away with one of the main facilities and supports of raids. A word further: Two mounted regiments are indispensable. With them, the last raid would have been successfully settled at Burlington the first day the enemy entered, instead of the wearying pursuit to Moorefield, with but partial success, by reason of exhausted cavalry hurried from the Ferry and Martinsburg. The Ringgold Battalion is without any organizing talent at its head, and I respectfully suggest, if the general commanding deems my views regarding the two mounted regiments worthy of approval, that they should be assigned to one of the large cavalry commands for organization and discipline.

With respect, faithfully,

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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HDQRS. SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE,
*Plymouth, N. C., February 7*, 1864.

Maj. B. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, District of North Carolina:*

MAJOR: On the 4th instant I addressed a communication to the commanding general, stating that a formidable expedition was preparing at or near Halifax, provided with boats, the object being to recover possession of this river. I have no reason thus far to doubt the truth of this statement; in the words of my informant, "there was a very large army." Refugees from Joyner's Station, near Rocky Mount, state that for ten days preceding Tuesday last trains of cars filled with troops were passing that place, both day and night, going toward Goldsborough, which accounts for the demonstrations on New Berne; they also carried pontoon boats and launches. Refugees from Wilmington state that Martin's and Clingman's brigades had left that place and that the town was guarded principally by the home guards. Launches have also been constructed there and transported toward Kinston. The troops passing Rocky Mount were North Carolina regiments, but it was said that a strong force of Georgian cavalry marched from that place to Wilson, where they divided.

I believe it is perfectly reliable to state that a naval brigade has been organized in Richmond for the purpose of operating in these sounds and tributary rivers, and that they may be heard from at almost any moment. Refugees state that among the inhabitants various motives are attributed for the recent and sudden concentration of troops in this State. Jefferson Davis had promised large rewards if they would recapture New Berne and Washington. Some believe it was to collect conscripts and supplies, whilst others consider it a movement to repress the spirit of agitation among the people. Thus far no change has been made on the line of the Sweet Water; but as it is better to prevent than to invite an attack in a small force I request re-enforcements, 3,000 effective men, until the emergency has passed or till the designs of the enemy are fully developed.

In my opinion, it is desirable to have the Chowan River carefully watched. I am positively assured that torpedoes have been placed in that river at Petty's Shore, 6 or 7 miles below Winton, but the Bombshell has passed there at least twice without damage. I have the honor to request that forage be sent here at once; also flour or bread.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. WESSELLS,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February 7*, 1864.

Col. J. W. SAVAGE,
*Twelfth New York Cavalry:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to say that it will be necessary for you to save the strength of your men and horses as much as possible, and perhaps to guard the roads by patrols and scouts rather than by pickets.

The general fully appreciates the labors of the Twelfth Cavalry, as well as that of the One hundred and thirty-second New York, and he trusts that in a few days he may be able to give both commands an opportunity for rest; but during the present condition of affairs all must husband their strength. The general directs me to give the result of a scout made by a portion of Colonel Amory's command yesterday in the direction of Pollocksville. The following is an extract from Colonel Amory's report:

> Three companies of infantry and a small detachment of cavalry under Lieutenant Lansing, Twelfth New York Cavalry, composed the force sent. The infantry marched to within 3 miles of Pollocksville, when the cavalry in advance came upon the enemy's pickets at Mill Creek, half a mile this side of Pollocksville. Lieutenant Lansing reports a breastwork or line of rifle-pits about 20 rods in length on the opposite side of the creek, from which I judge the enemy have an outpost at Pollocksville, and probably occupy Trenton in like manner.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February 7*, 1864.

Col. P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Commanding Outposts:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to say that he wishes to be informed precisely what line you are occupying. He

also wishes you to express your views as to the desirability of retaining the old line of outposts. He is of the opinion that perhaps some better line could be taken nearer New Berne and support. You will therefore give this subject a careful consideration, and if you come to any conclusion regarding a change, suggest it. You will be careful to state particularly what number of troops of all arms you consider necessary to reoccupy the old lines or to hold any new line.

In a few days the general will be able to re-enforce you to some extent. The general wishes particularly to caution you to husband the strength of your cavalry, for they have a deal of work to do for their numbers. A mail goes north to-night at 4 o'clock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 8, 1864—2.45 p. m. (Received 3.10 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Scouts from the Shenandoah report Early encamped near Mount Jackson on Friday, at noon. His force consists of the two brigades of infantry heretofore reported and Rosser's and Imboden's cavalry.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

(Copy to General Kelley.)

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 8, 1864—12 m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

All quiet. Enemy's pickets in old position. Artillery gone from railroad bridge. No other change.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 8, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

Has any movement of the enemy been observed to-day?

NORTON.

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 8, 1864—1 p m.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

The enemy are digging rifle-pits along the river near Morton's Ford.

CASTLE,
*Signal Officer.*

PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 8, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Enemy occupy old camps, except one near Orange Court-House, which is not visible. Show themselves more than usual in small parties, apparently waiting for something to turn up. Raccoon and Morton's Fords well guarded. Battery posted at Mountain Run yesterday not seen this a. m. No other change.

HALSTED,
*Signal Officer.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 8, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST CORPS:

Have your troops returned to camp?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 8, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

At what time did your troops get back to camp? Did anything occur worth noting?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 8, 1864—11 p. m.
(Received 12 midnight.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The forces reported by General Sedgwick as being at Mount Jackson on Friday must have been Imboden's, as Early's and Rosser's were driven from Moorefield late in the evening of Thursday.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *February* 8, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Commanding at Martinsburg, Va.:*

You will order Major Morris, One hundred and sixteeenth Ohio Infantry, to go to Kearneysville to-morrow morning and take command of that post and Duffield's. Furnish him with copies of all instructions you have in regard to passes. Instructions will be sent him by mail to-morrow.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT MONROE, *February* 8, 1864.
(Received 8.25 p. m.)

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Dispatch-boat just in from New Berne. General Palmer reports everything is going on well in this district. The losses by the United States in the way of public property are too trifling to mention. We have lost some few good officers and men killed, wounded, and prisoners.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 8, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The order relieving Captain Farquhar is revoked, as you desire. You will return it to the Adjutant-General. Your telegrams announcing the result of your expedition have been received. Its failure, through the treacherous disclosure of a deserter, could not be effectually guarded against, and, while regretting the want of success, I am glad the enterprise has not suffered disaster. Perhaps there will be better luck next time.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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NEW BERNE, N. C., *February* 8, 1864.

Capt. J. W. DENNY, *Chief Provost-Marshal:*

CAPTAIN: I am instructed by the general commanding to say that the newspaper called the New Berne Times is suppressed, for publishing what is considered by the commanding general matter calculated to give false and injurious impressions of the more recent military operations here. You will notify the proprietor of this order of the commanding general, and see yourself personally that the issue of the paper is immediately stopped.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, D. C., February* 9, 1864—1.49 p. m.

Major-General MEADE, *Philadelphia:*

I am rejoiced that your health is improving, and hope you will not run any risk by premature exposure. This Department is not informed of anything requiring your immediate return. The newspapers will tell you all that is going on and a good deal more.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 9, 1864—12 m.

Captain NORTON:

I have been prevented until now from making morning report, as usual. Enemy have withdrawn from their intrenchments, and occupy their old camps; no new ones are observed. Atmosphere is clearing, and will report concisely this p. m.

PAINE.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
*February* 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following report has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded:

PONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*February* 9, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

The enemy occupy their old camps along the river, but I see no new ones whatever. The pickets have been strengthened at the fords. In the vicinity of Walker's Springs a smoke has been visible to-day, and also at a point 10 miles south of there, on the Madison and Gordonsville pike. I judge the former camp smoke, and the latter burning brush. At north base of Fox Mountain a smoke has been seen this p. m., also like brush-burning.

PAINE,
*Signal Officer.*

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.*

---

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *February* 9, 1864.
(Received 3.15 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have heard of a force below the railroad on the Accotink, and have just sent out a squadron of cavalry and two companies of infantry to look for them, with a guide who has seen the rebels.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORP, SPECIAL SERVICE,
*New York, February* 9, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. R. B. Potter, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby detailed as chief of recruiting service for Ninth Army Corps in the State of New York.

* * * * * * *

III. Brigadier-General Harland, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby detailed as chief of recruiting service for the original regiments of what formerly composed the Third Division of the Ninth Army Corps in the State of Connecticut.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Burnside:

EDWARD M. NEILL,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
*Fort Monroe, Va., February* 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby placed in command of all army gun-boats in this department, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February 9, 1864.*

Major-General PECK,
*Commanding District of North Carolina:*

GENERAL: I send you a copy of the Richmond Examiner with Pickett's report of his attack upon New Berne, and also the Petersburg account of why he did not succeed. I wish to call your attention to the statement that one of our negro soldiers was hanged. If there is any foundation for it send out a flag of truce and ask General Pickett if it is true; if so, report to me.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February 9, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Comdg. Dist. of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that two companies of the Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery are sent to you, by the S. R. Spaulding, to be sent by you immediately to General Wessells, at Plymouth. The army gun-boats Brewster and Foster have also been ordered to report to General Wessells, the former via Hatteras, the latter by way of the canal.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. T. SCHROEDER,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*Batchelder's Creek, N. C., February 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Captain JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I am somewhat disappointed in not getting those five companies by this a. m. train. Please do not wait till regular p. m. train, but send them right up, with one day's rations in haversack, overcoats on, and blanket slung, but no knapsacks, and each having 40 rounds ammunition. I will post them from here, and it must be done while it is daylight. Their traps can come up to-morrow. My men have had for the last ten days more than I ask these should do for one day. The enemy is still in force at Kinston. I will most likely know by night what their future designs are; I think they are going to Raleigh, Weldon, and South Carolina.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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FEBRUARY 10, 1864.

Lieutenant HALSTED:

Make a careful observation and report whether the enemy have withdrawn any of their camps along the Rapidan.

NORTON.

FEBRUARY 10, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

There is no change from previous reports.

HALSTED.

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THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 10, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

No force of the enemy in sight this morning. He has strong picket-lines along the river.

TAYLOR,
*Signal Officer.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 10, 1864.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

The enemy's pickets occupy rifle-pits. No camps have been moved to my knowledge. See enemy's camps and smokes.

TAYLOR.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 10, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant WIGGINS:

A deserter reports enemy falling back. Do you observe any diminution of force or camps within your view? Is there any force of enemy at Barnett's Ford?

NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer.*

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 10, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

There is no change. Can see no enemy at the ford.

WIGGINS.

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PONY MOUNTAIN,
*February* 10, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Smoke at Barnett's Ford heavier than usual. Do our pickets extend to Thoroughfare Mountain, and at what points?

HALSTED.

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FEBRUARY 10, 1864.

Lieutenant HALSTED:

Our pickets do not extend to Thoroughfare Mountain. They run around Garnett's Mountain and up to Stone House Mountain, via Wayland's Mill.

NORTON.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY RESERVE BRIGADE,
*February* 10, 1864.

Capt. T. C. BACON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division:*

CAPTAIN: Your communication of this date relative to the want of communication between the pickets of this brigade and those of Colonel Chapman's command has been received, and in reply I have the honor to state that I have just returned from a personal inspection of the right of my line, and that the vedette of this brigade was and is about 100 yards distant from the vedette upon the extreme left of Colonel Chapman's line. These pickets were upon opposite sides of a ravine and so near together as to admit of verbal communication. The connection between the pickets of the two brigades during the day is perfect, and is only broken, as I was informed, by the withdrawal at night of the left vedette of the First Brigade to a point about 100 yards to the rear.

Although I cannot see the necessity for, or the utility of, this change, I have directed my pickets to conform to it and to make every exertion to keep the connection unbroken. Upon the return of the brigade from the expedition of the 6th and 7th instant I am informed that it was reported to these headquarters by the officer in command of the picket line of this brigade that after patrolling 2 miles to the right of the usual point of connection he was unable to find any pickets of the First Brigade. This fact was twice reported to division headquarters by telegraph, as was also the want of connection at night, occasioned by the withdrawal of the vedette previously mentioned. My extreme right now rests at the schoolhouse, where it has been stationed since the First Brigade returned from Sulphur Springs. I have the honor herewith to transmit the reports of Captains Norris and Rodenbough, relative to the facts above set forth, together with a small document* from First Lieut. James C. Hunt, First U. S. Cavalry, upon the same subject. How the report could have arisen that there was any want of connection between the lines I am at a loss to understand, and I am satisfied that no disjunction has occurred for which there is any evidence to show that this brigade is responsible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. THORP,
*Lieut. Col. First New York Dragoons, Comdg. Brigade.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND U. S. CAVALRY,
*Near Mitchell's Station, Va., February* 8, 1864.

[Lieut. W. H. H. EMMONS:]

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that my pickets were unable to connect with the line of pickets on the right, at the schoolhouse. Patrols were sent to find the pickets of the cavalry, but could not find them within 2½ miles.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully,

CHAS. E. NORRIS,
*Captain, Second Cavalry, Commanding Regiment.*

* Not found.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

CAMP SECOND U. S. CAVALRY,
*Near Mitchell's Station, Va., February 8, 1864—8 a. m.*

Lieut. W. H. H. EMMONS,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Reserve Cavalry Brigade:*

LIEUTENANT: I have to report no change in the picket-line, except that a regiment of infantry took position last night at Somerville Ford, apparently to watch the enemy at that point. Lieutenant Cahill, who relieved Lieutenant Horrigan, Second Cavalry, yesterday on the extreme right, at the school-house, reports that he is unable to make any connection with Chapman on the right, having patrolled 2 miles to the right without meeting the vedettes of the other brigade. The Second U. S. Cavalry have been doing picket duty on this line for three days and three nights consecutively.

Respectfully,

T. F. RODENBOUGH,
*Capt., Second U. S. Cav., Act. Field Officer of the Day.*

P. S.—Lieutenant Lawless just reports that the infantry at Somerville Ford have been withdrawn.

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 10, 1864—5 p. m.
(Received 5.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following telegram from General Sullivan transmitted for the information of the General-in-Chief:

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *February* 10, 1864.

General KELLEY:

Twenty-four refugees have just come in—able-bodied men—fleeing from conscription. They report a feeling of terror and despair in the counties of Page and Rockingham at the wholesale conscripting order of the Confederate Congress. The Twelfth Georgia is one of the regiments employed in conscripting, who savagely shoot down all caught in trying to escape.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 10, 1864.
Received 1.40 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Nothing new since my last telegram. Duffié's scouts to recapture Scammon not yet returned. Large number of deserters in Early's and Rosser's forces coming from them, mostly deserters on the retreat from the South Branch to the Shenandoah Valley. Our scouts killed the notorious guerrilla chief Mike Kane, and captured 4 of his gang of desperadoes in the mountains near Moorefield day before yesterday. Early took from the South Branch Valley quite a number of cattle and sheep. He made no distinction; took from rebels as well as Union men.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Clarksburg, W. Va., February* 10, 1864.

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, New Creek, W. Va.:*

LIEUTENANT: I am in receipt of a telegram from Capt. C. J. Harrison, commanding at Bulltown, dated February 10, 1864, which reads as follows:

From a rebel mail captured a few days ago, just from Jackson's camp at Warm Springs, and Camp Cameron, Bath County, I learn that Jackson's command is at the above-named places and his forces larger than he has yet had. The letters say they will be out this way early in the spring; that Jackson and Early both have promised the men to come. From another source I learn that Jackson has four regiments, numbering 4,000 men, and that as soon as weather permits will make a raid through this country, aiming principally at Bulltown.

Imboden's command was at the foot of Alleghany Mountains January 27, 1864.

I am, respectfully, yours,

N. WILKINSON,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February* 12, 1864.

Copy respectfully forwarded for information of the general commanding department.

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February* 10, 1864

W. E. BOND, J. J. CARMON, JOSEPH F. WAFF:

GENTLEMEN: In answer to the inquiry proposed by you, as a committee from the citizens of Chowan County, N. C., I respectfully answer to the first, viz:

First. What will be the policy pursued toward the citizens of Chowan if they continue peaceable and quiet, abstaining from all acts of hostility?

Answer. That if the inhabitants of that county remain peaceable and quiet, abstaining from all acts of hostility, aiding blockade-running, or concealing guerrillas, they will not be interfered with by the troops of the United States, as we have no occasion to go into any parts of the country where no acts of hostility are committed against the Government.

To the second question, viz:

Second. Will expeditions be projected into our county, and, if found necessary to make them, will peaceable citizens and private property be protected and respected?

Answer. That unless some portion of Chowan County is occupied by some forces or signal parties of the Confederacy, or some parties hostile to the United States take refuge in that county, no expedition will be sent therein, and if it becomes necessary to send expeditions there the private persons and property of peaceable citizens will be protected, and the expeditions be conducted on the principles laid down in General Orders, No. 10, current series, a copy of which is hereby inclosed.

To the third question, viz:

Third. Was not the order requiring and enforcing the oath of allegiance designed to apply only to persons embraced within your picket-lines?

Answer. That as the Government of the United States cannot throw, in fact, its protection around the citizens of Chowan, they are excused from the corresponding obligation of actively expressing their allegiance to the Government, which might endanger their safety from the enemies of the United States, and therefore the oath of allegiance will not be required of the citizens of Chowan County until they are brought within our lines.

To the fourth question, viz:

Fourth. Cannot trade with Norfolk be opened and allowed to the people of Chowan, and on what terms and under what restrictions?

Answer. That trade may be carried on with Norfolk under the same provisions as those given to the citizens of Pasquotank County, as expressed in a letter given to them, a duplicate of which is addressed to this committee.

In answer to the fifth question, viz:

Fifth. Cannot servants who have left us be prevented from returning, or at least be restrained from unnecessary offensiveness and actual outrage to feelings or property of their former owners?

I have the honor to say:

Answer. That the negroes who have left the county will not be allowed to return unless by stealth, and if upon returning in such manner they outrage the property or persons of their former owners it is hoped that they will be arrested and held by the citizens of the county and information sent to these headquarters, in order that they may be sent for and punished.

The sixth question is a more difficult one, viz:

Sixth. Can our citizens be permitted to fish with seines and nets on Albemarle Sound and on the eastern side of Chowan River, and on what terms and under what restrictions?

Answer. It is understood by the commanding general that fishing with seines and nets in the sounds and rivers affords a large quantity of provision for the inhabitants of that part of North Carolina. The difficulty is, therefore, that that provision thus obtained may be stored in large amounts and tempt raids there by the Confederates, to the destruction of the peace of the county, requiring an armed force to be sent there to meet those raids on our part, unless we quietly permit supplies for the rebel army to be drawn from that source. Now this is entirely irrespective of the good faith of the inhabitants of that county, for if they accumulate provisions with the intent to use them in their families they may be taken from them justifiably, under the laws of war, to support the rebel army. These circumstances surround the use of the waters adjoining Chowan County with difficulties, and by means of our gun-boats any use of the waters may be very easily prevented; but the commanding general desires, as is the policy of his Government, to extend every facility to the peaceable and quiet citizens of every part of the country to support themselves, and these facilities, so far as it can be done without injury to the success of his troops in the field, will permit fish to be taken by seines and nets in the waters adjoining the county of Chowan, on the east side of Chowan River and the Albemarle, so long as no Confederate or North Carolina State troops shall come into that

county; and provided further, that no one citizen shall salt or cure more than ten barrels of fish for his own use, and there shall be no greater accumulation at any point within 7 miles of each other than one hundred barrels of fish so cured, and at no point any such accumulation be made more than 1 mile from navigable water of at least 4 feet draught.

As this permission is given wholly in deference to the wishes of the citizens of Chowan County, and for their use and benefit, and without any possible good to the United States except in taking care of its citizens, and with very possible harm if it is abused, the utmost good faith will be required of the citizens to carry out in the same spirit of fairness as it is permitted this business of fishing, and any abuse of this privilege, or any infraction of its terms, will be most severely dealt with as a breach of trust or confidence.

The seventh and last question, viz:

Seventh. We would further represent to Major-General Butler, in behalf of our fellow-citizens, that during the progress of this dreadful conflict we have been exempted to a great extent from the presence of troops in our midst, and as we conceive the locality to be devoid of military importance, we sincerely hope and trust that Major-General Butler may not order its occupation by any of the troops under his command.

Is answered in the answer to the first question, and in the general spirit of the answers in this note.

The commanding general desires to call the attention of the committee and others than the citizens of the county to the fact that if their action is characterized with good faith and true desire to preserve the peace of the county there will be no possible difficulty, and trouble can only result from the acts of bad men, who, either from hostility to the United States or from love of gain, will hazard the interests of their fellow-citizens, and such men must be watched and restrained by the organized action of the citizens of the county, who have their own peace and quiet in their own hands.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
} DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
No. 10. } *Fort Monroe, Va., January* 16, 1864.

To correct a misapprehension which seems to exist with the officers of this command as to their powers and duties in taking property for military purposes, and their accountability therefor; to afford just protection to peaceable and quiet citizens from unauthorized and lawless acts, and to enable them to obtain speedy redress and remuneration therefor, if found loyal; to allow the taking, in an orderly manner only, such property and material as may be necessary and useful for military purposes, or to deprive the enemy thereof if likely to fall into their hands, or if found in the hands of those in rebellion or aiding the enemy; to give full force and effect to the example whenever it is found necessary to punish summarily offenses by the destruction of the property of offenders, it is ordered:

I. That private property of a peaceable inhabitant shall be seized only when needed for the use of the troops, either for shelter, trans-

portation, fuel, or food, or from known enemies, to be turned over to the agents of the Treasury.

Secondly, it may be taken or destroyed in order to deprive the enemy thereof, when in danger of falling into his hands, or to prevent its use by the enemy.

Thirdly, it may be destroyed as a summary punishment for offenses, such as discharging a musket by a citizen from his house upon a body of troops, or setting poisoned food before soldiers, or murder within a house, or using the house and property to secrete murderers, or as a rendezvous for felons and the like.

In each of these cases the act can be done only by the order of a commissioned officer, in command of an army, expedition, separate detachment, or post.

II. It has been brought to the notice of the commanding general that there is a reluctance on the part of officers seizing property, either as a military necessity or upon orders, to give to the party claiming certificates showing such seizure, thereby leaving themselves liable to the imputation of having carried away property which they have not in fact taken, and exposing the United States to claims sometimes unfounded and always exorbitant. There should be no hesitation in giving such certificate. It does not add to the responsibility of the officer, but, on the contrary, is a protection both to himself and the Government. No officer should do an act which he is not willing to certify having done. It is therefore the duty of every officer taking any property from any peaceable citizen, whether loyal or disloyal, to give a certificate to the party, claimant, or person from whom it is taken, containing an accurate inventory of the property, the time when and place where and person from whom taken, with the name, regiment, and company, as the case may be, in full, of the officer actually making the seizure, whether that seizure is made upon that officer's own responsibility or under orders from his superior, and to make a report of the same to his immediate commander.

Such certificate should also state whether the property taken is that of a loyal or disloyal citizen, to the best of the information of the captor.

III. In case it becomes necessary, for military purposes, to destroy any houses, buildings, or other property, a certificate stating the cause of the act should be given by the officer making the order or doing the act to the person claiming, or it should be affixed to the nearest prominent object, if practicable, and in each case a report made to the immediate commander of the act done and of the certificate given.

Any officer taking property of a citizen for any purpose whatever, whether loyal or disloyal, without giving such certificate to the claimant, or destroying any property without such certificate, and reporting the act as above provided, shall be deemed to be and held guilty as for unauthorized and causeless plunder and embezzlement of the property taken, or for an unjustifiable destruction of property, as the case may be. In such cases the commanding general will not too much invoke the aid of a court-martial in punishing the offenders.

IV. Cases of difficulty have arisen where the negroes, formerly slaves, joining the troops of the United States on marches and expeditions, with intent to come within our lines for protection, bring with them property of their former masters.

While the theory adopted by some officers that all the property in the rebel States belongs to the negroes, because it is the product of their labor, is theoretically true, yet it is not such a truth as can be made the foundation of Government action. Therefore negroes, while they are to be induced to join our marches and expeditions, are not to be allowed to bring with them any other than those personal effects which have belonged to them, or such property as the officer commanding may order.

If it becomes necessary to take means of transportation from their masters it is to be receipted for by the officer in command, as in other cases, stating the purpose for which such transportation is taken.

V. Competent officers make good soldiers; efficient officers can prevent outrage and plunder on the part of their men. All officers will be held strictly responsible for the acts of their men, and will be held to make good all plundering by the troops under their immediate command.

In punishing the offenses of plundering the inquiry at these headquarters will be, not which men did the act complained of, but who was the immediate commander of the men liable for the outrage.

VI. All property seized as above provided must be accounted for or turned over to the quartermaster or provost-marshal, to be taken upon their accounts, or the officer under whose command it is taken will be held liable for embezzlement.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE,
*Plymouth, N. C., February* 10, 1864.

Maj. B. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, District of North Carolina:*

MAJOR: I have no information of importance at this time to communicate. There is no reason to believe that the line of the enemy at Sweet Water Creek has been changed since my last report. The State of North Carolina is of infinite importance to both hostile parties, and as the points occupied are so weak as to be harassed at any moment with impunity, I feel justified in repeating my request for re-enforcements, as I desire to have it on record.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. WESSELLS,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 11, 1864—9.25 p. m. (Received 9.40 p. m.)

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

General Kilpatrick has been ordered to proceed at once to Washington and report to you.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

WASHINGTON, *February* 11, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Army of the Potomac:*

In your telegram of the 7th instant you say:

One result of the co-operation with General Butler has been to prove that it has spoiled the best chance we had for a successful attack on the Rapidan.

The President directs that you report what this "best chance" was; what "successful attack" was proposed; when it was to be executed, and how it has been spoiled by your co-operation with General Butler.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 11, 1864—9.25 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The commanding general directs that you at once order General Kilpatrick to proceed to Washington and report to the President, as requested by the latter. It is not expected that General Kilpatrick will be absent more than two or three days.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 11, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel SCHOONMAKER:

It is reported that there is a rebel force composed of Rosser's and Imboden's command at Great Cacapon bridge. Have you any such information? What do your scouts report?

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

I have no information whatever of any force at Great Cacapon bridge. My scouts yesterday from that direction reported all quiet. I will send a couple of good men there to-morrow morning, supported by a strong scouting party. Scout from Strasburg this afternoon reports all quiet in that direction.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 4TH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Beverly, W. Va., February* 11, 1864.

General KELLEY:

DEAR SIR: Two days since a very intelligent Irishman came in from Monroe County, and indirectly from Richmond. He informs

me that Jenkins is organizing a large cavalry corps in Southwestern Virginia. His horses are already purchased, and are on the borders of North Carolina, where forage is plenty. This force is understood to be used in Western Virginia the coming spring. Although I look upon him with suspicion, still in this matter I think he tells the truth. He also informs me that the conscription act will greatly augment their army. He will go to Wheeling to-morrow. He is much such a man as George Lurty was, whom you had in custody some two years since. The scout into Webster has not yet returned. I learn, though, that they had met with some success. I started 15 of the best men of the Tenth Virginia into Pocahontas this morning, with the intention of capturing Joe Guy and two of his party, who are on Elk. I did not know at the time I addressed you that George Ward's case had been before you. I supposed that he was let out by the authorities at Wheeling alone. For this reason I placed the matter before you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. S. HALL,
*Lieutenant-Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*Batchelder's Creek, N. C., February* 11, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Captain JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: Dispatch received. O. K. Rebel pickets are at Core Creek. I have reliable information that the rebel forces under General Pickett went beyond Kinston. I will ascertain what the Core Creek rebel pickets are made of.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 12, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 11 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

In reply to your telegram of last evening, I have to state the best chance for a successful attack on the Rapidan lay in the fact that not more than a brigade or a brigade and a half was holding the works at Morton's Ford; that the nearest re-enforcements (not counting the brigade or brigade and a half holding the works at Raccoon Ford, which could not be removed without abandoning that part of the line) were from 5 to 6 miles off (two brigades back of Somerville and Robertson's Fords); that the other posts of Ewell's corps were from 10 to 12 miles off, and Hill's corps as far off, if not farther; that the appearance of our troops at Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan, was a complete surprise, and if 1,000 or 1,200 men had rushed to the enemy's works at that point they could have been carried, and if the whole army could have been on the river, with the artillery and ammunition and other fighting trains ready to follow up the taking of the works at Morton's Ford, Lee's army would have had to fight without the advantage of the strong position of the Rapidan, rendered vastly stronger by intrenchments.

In other words, gaining the intrenchments at Morton's Ford, with the whole army to follow it up, would have turned his intrenched position of the Rapidan and its appendages. Second, the condition of the roads, country, and weather during the time that co-operation with General Butler was proposed and executed was such as to render the secret and rapid movement of this army impracticable. Third, the dispatch from General Butler received Friday night requested that the demonstration by this army should be made the next day (Saturday), and without regard to the weather; it stated that he hoped to strike his point Sunday morning at 6 o'clock. The demonstration, to be in time for General Butler's purpose (and it was made for no other object), could only be effected by using the two corps nearest the Rapidan—the First and Second—without bringing in their detached brigades, picket guards, &c., and by leaving their camps standing, with guards, &c., and sending parts of two divisions of cavalry to make demonstrations on the Rapidan above and below, by which the operations would be prolonged through Saturday. Fourth, the requirements of General Butler, just stated, rendered it impossible to take advantage of a surprise at Morton's Ford if one should be made, since the army could not be got to the river in time, if, indeed, it was practicable to get it there at all. Fifth, the co-operation with General Butler spoiled the chance for a successful attack by giving the enemy proof that we could surprise them at Morton's Ford, and by indicating to them what they should do, by a new arrangement of troops and new defensive works, to prevent a repetition of it. They have already thrown up a new rifle-pit close to the ford. A mere cavalry reconnaissance last fall caused them to extend the intrenchments on the Rapidan up Mine Run several miles. A similar reconnaissance at an earlier day toward their left caused them to intrench the crossing of Blue River and make other defensive dispositions. Sixth, in my telegram to you of the 5th instant I stated, "Demonstrations in our front at the present time may, however, spoil the chances for the future." The conditions of a successful attack, so far as they relate to the condition, position, and sense of security of Lee's army, existed already. The conditions relating to the state of the roads and the weather, which rendered it practicable to move this army secretly and rapidly to the Rapidan, did not exist, and until they did no plan of attack could be prepared with any view to its execution, nor could any time be proposed for its execution. It was believed, however, that the opportunity would occur.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.
*February* 12, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that the picket-lines of the Second and Third Corps be so modified that the roads to Mitchell's and Raccoon Fords be picketed by the Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 12, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
*Commanding Third Army Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that the picket-lines of the Second and Third Corps be so modified that the roads to Mitchell's and Raccoon Fords be picketed by the Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *February* 12, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, Va.:*

Start out every available man toward Winchester. The rebels have captured express train near Kearneysville.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry:*

I am sending 500 cavalry and two pieces of artillery on the trot to Kearneysville, with instructions to strike the direct trail of the enemy and continue on it with all dispatch possible. The enemy cannot have more than 20 miles start of them, and if it is only such a force as we deem it and encumbered with booty, prisoners, &c., I have no doubt but that they will overhaul them. I have placed the remainder of my mounted force in the saddle and dismounted men in line. Please instruct what further you desire me to do. My dismounted men are ready for any emergency.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, *February* 12, 1864.

Colonel SCHOONMAKER:

Pursue vigorously.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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YORKTOWN, *February* 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I wished Colonel Garrard's cavalry to make reconnaissance to King and Queen, but of course gave him some discretion, and he came back the same day he started, after going to Gloucester Court-House, only where I might have gone myself with one orderly. Of course I have learned nothing from them, and must send other cavalry. Colonel Garrard wishes to return to Fort Monroe. I can readily spare him, if you so wish.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: I regret to state that 53 loyal North Carolinians were captured at the outposts during the recent operations. Had I been here I should have kept them in our main defenses, since nearly all of them are deserters from the rebel service. My impressions are they will try them and punish them severely in view of the crumbling condition of the Confederacy. Doubtless extra severity will be meted out because they are North Carolinians.

Fear of detection and death in case of capture will, I fear, break up our recruiting service, which has been so successful. Under the circumstances I deem it my duty to call upon General Pickett for the same protection and treatment for these prisoners as was extended to the others. I much need your advice in this matter, and hope you will be able to give it in time.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA, *Fort Monroe, Va., February* 12, 1864.

All estates in this department abandoned or now occupied by rebels will be turned over by the military commanders, to be taken possession of by the superintendent of negro affairs or Treasury agent.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*February* 13, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST ARMY CORPS:

All quiet; no change in our front. A deserter coming in last night reports a brigade of cavalry encamped near Barnett's Ford.

J. C. WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 13, 1864—5 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST ARMY CORPS:

Heavy smoke near Barnett's Ford seems to confirm report of deserter. All quiet.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

[Indorsement.]

General MERRITT, *Cavalry Division:*

DEAR GENERAL: I do not see any news in these dispatches, but I send them to you. Please return.

JOHN NEWTON,
*Major-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *February* 13, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

Brig. Gen. George Crook has reported to these headquarters, and been assigned to the command of the Third Division in this department.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

The General-in-Chief directs that the Fourteenth New Hampshire Infantry be sent to Washington as soon as possible. You will therefore send it as indicated as soon as cars can be furnished.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *February* 13, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Send back the party with flag of truce. I cannot permit them to take the remains of a rebel soldier through the lines at present. It is in all probability a dodge to ascertain the strength and position of your troops. Take a full description of the party, and also ascertain whose corpse they are after; what was his name, regiment, company, county and State he was from, &c. I cannot go down to see you to-day, but will soon do so.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, VA., *February* 13, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I returned from Winchester at 7 o'clock last night. Found no enemy.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: My information is of such a nature as to induce the belief that Jeff. Davis has decided upon recovering New Berne and the sounds, probably as a preliminary step to Lee's retrograde movement in the spring. Both rams are expected down the Neuse and Roanoke, in conjunction with land troops. It seems certain that the one at Kinston is intended to come down on the next high water. I have just ordered some old hulks to be placed in the Neuse above

the city, and shall leave to-morrow morning for Washington and Plymouth. All are at work strengthening our lines where most needed. The railway is in good order again. Good cavalry is of the highest moment to us in North Carolina. General Pickett has arrested General Barton for his part in the late affair.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 13, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

MAJOR: I have intimated in very strong terms to Major-General Pickett that he must disavow the shooting or killing of a negro soldier, and punish the offenders, or I should execute a rebel soldier.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. FORCES AND DEFENSES AT NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 13, 1864.

Capt. J. WALDO DENNY,
*Provost-Marshal:*

CAPTAIN: The general commanding directs me to say that the proprietor of the North Carolina Times may be permitted to issue his paper again, but that every issue of his paper must be carefully examined at your office and approved by you before the circulation is permitted. You of course can exercise your own judgment as to what is proper and what improper matter for publication. The general also wishes you to inform the proprietor of the paper referred to that he can have all the copies of his last issue that belong to him, but that if he presumes to send one of them away from New Berne, in violation of the order already given his paper will again be suppressed, and totally.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS, *February* 13, 1864.

Maj. B. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Jeff. Davis says New Berne can and must be taken. At the first high water they will send the iron-clad now building and nearly finished down the Neuse. At the same time an attack by land is to be made, so as to occupy New Berne by or on March 14, 1864.

I believe that a grand attempt will be made here at Batchelder's Creek, but really come down on the Trent side. The Gully can be and should be made as strong as my immediate front; then let them come.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

BALTIMORE, *February* 14, 1864—6 p. m.

Col. G. H. SHARPE,
*Deputy Provost-Marshal-General:*

I have some important information from our friend as to numbers, position, and movement of the rebels. How shall I send it to you?

J. L. McPHAIL,
*Provost-Marshal-General.*

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PRO. MAR. GEN.'S DEPT., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 14, 1864—7 p. m.

J. L. McPHAIL,
*Provost-Marshal-General, Baltimore, Md.:*

Send us at once a synopsis of ———'s report (in cipher) by telegraph, and the report in full by return mail.

J. C. B.

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BALTIMORE, *February* 14, 1864—10 p. m.

Col. G. H. SHARPE,
*Deputy Provost-Marshal-General:*

Fifteen thousand between Weldon and Wilmington said to attack New Berne, but thought to overawe the Union sentiment. General Pickett's forces all in North Carolina. Beauregard 19,000 all told in and about Charleston; no troops left Beauregard except those on furlough; he has 35,000 men. Longstreet has 20,000; has moved his headquarters to Morristown; 7,000 of his men are shoeless. Five companies of heavy artillery in defenses of Richmond, four light batteries, two companies cavalry, 120 Green's men, City Battalion, 640; 4,000 citizen soldiers could be turned out. Four hundred cavalry on the Chickahominy between James and York Rivers. Seven hundred and eighty Maryland Line at Hanover Junction.

Lee one month ago had 46,000, besides cavalry. Hoke's brigade (1,700) left for North Carolina. Six thousand furloughed; has now 35,000. Hampton's cavalry, 6,000. Lomax's brigade of Lee's division (1,600) are all the cavalry Lee has. Fitz. Lee disbanded 4,000 for want of forage.

J. L. McPHAIL,
*Provost-Marshal-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 14, 1864.
(Received 3.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:*

The following telegram has just been received from General Wistar:

YORKTOWN, *February* 14, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff:*

Two escaped Union officers have reached my pickets from Richmond. They report 109 more on the road. A general delivery of one prison-house was effected by digging a tunnel under the street. General Dow could not stand the fatigue of

the trip, and consequently did not come. My cavalry are in motion, scouring the Peninsula to cover the escape of the rest. Several colonels, among them Colonel Streight, are on the road, but the path is hard.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

---

FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 14, 1864.
(Received 2.35 p. m., 16th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

Twenty-six of the escaped prisoners have arrived within our lines up to to-night. We have sent cavalry patrols up the Peninsula as far as the Chickahominy to pick up all we can. Have sent an army gun-boat up the James and Chickahominy Rivers for the same purpose.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Fort Monroe, Va., February* 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY,
*War Department, Washington City:*

General Butler went to New York to attend his brother's burial, by permission of the Secretary of War. Will be back to-morrow night or Tuesday morning. The routine of the department is conducted by the chiefs of the different branches of his staff.

General Peck, being next senior officer in the department, and being at New Berne, N. C., could not, if ordered off, have reached here before General Butler's return. Everything is perfectly quiet in the department.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

---

YORKTOWN, *February* 14, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff:*

Cavalry returned from Potopotank. Captured a small 10-ton schooner, which was towed down by the gun-boat. What shall be done with it? Confiscate and sell by provost-marshal, or send it down?

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

YORKTOWN, *February* 14, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff:*

My cavalry detachment has returned to Williamsburg with eleven more of the escaped officers from Richmond, picked up at various

points. A fresh detachment, strong enough to whip the Holcombe Legion, has just gone out after more. The account I telegraphed you is correct. One hundred and nine escaped. A Richmond paper seen by one of our scouts, but not brought in by him, confirms it. Their great difficulty will be to cross the Chickahominy, all the private crossings of which are watched by rebel scouts of Hume's party, concealed from our cavalry in the woods.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FEBRUARY 14, 1864.

Colonel WEST:

Take all care of the escaped prisoners and send them on the way. Furnish them with whatever they require.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FORT MONROE, *February* 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General WISTAR:

Captain Wallick, Fifty-first Indiana, and Lieutenant Harris, Third Ohio, escaped prisoners, just arrived here from Yorktown, report that they only knew of 25 others getting out. Are these the officers you got your information from?

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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FEBRUARY 14, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff, Fort Monroe:*

I was absent reviewing troops when your telegram arrived. Two more officers, not the ones you mention, came in this morning, who report the 109 escaped prisoners.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GETTY'S LINE, *February* 14, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

When are you going to send back the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry? I need them very much. I have not sufficient cavalry to patrol the country. Our line needs constant and thorough patrolling to make it secure.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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GETTY'S LINE, *February* 14, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

I have received information from a reliable source that the rebels contemplate making a demonstration in this direction. Their forces are increasing on the Blackwater. If you have an available force

at Newport News or at other points I can make good use of them in case the rebels cross the Nansemond. Had you not better order the One hundred and eighteenth and One hundred and thirty-ninth [New York] temporarily here?

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—It is said to be a movement in concert with that on New Berne. How about the artillery from Fort Norfolk?

C. A. H.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 15, 1864—2.40 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

Dispatch from Major-General Birney states that the pickets of his First Division report a considerable body of infantry moving in their front to his right. The pickets of his First Division are on the right of your pickets. Has any report of the kind reached you?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 15, 1864—3.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

I think there must be some mistake in the report from the pickets of the Third Corps. I telegraphed General Pleasonton at once. He has received no information of any kind. I have just sent directions to General Merritt to send out a force to ascertain what the report means. General Pleasonton is at Stevensburg reviewing cavalry. General Meade has returned.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 15, 1864—2.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

Have you received any dispatches from patrols respecting such a movement as that reported from General Birney's pickets?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT:

General Birney reports that his pickets report a considerable force of infantry passing the front of his First Division toward his right. His First Division pickets unite with those of the Sixth Corps. The major-general commanding directs that you send out a force immediately to ascertain the truth of this report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 15, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

By direction of the major-general commanding, General Merritt has been ordered to send out a force to ascertain the nature of the reported movement of the enemy. The order was sent direct to avoid delay in communication. Major-General Meade desires to see General Pleasonton at these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 15, 1864—5.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The report respecting the movement of infantry in front of the pickets of the Third Corps has been ascertained to be unfounded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 15, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General MERRITT:

The report of the enemy being in front of the First Division of the Third Corps has been ascertained to be unfounded. The cavalry reconnaissance may be recalled.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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TUESDAY NIGHT, *February* 15, 1864—9.30 p. m.
(Received 9.56 p. m.)

Capt. GEORGE S. SHAW,
*Aide-de-Camp, Hdqrs. Dept. of Washington:*

Mr. Childs, employed by Engineer Department, writes to Colonel Tannatt this evening:

Arrangements are now complete for barricading Aqueduct Bridge. Twenty-five or 30 men are required to do it. No orders have been received by guard at south end of bridge. I leave a foreman and 6 men at south end of bridge, and will be obliged if you will send an officer to direct when the bridge shall be closed. Everything is ready to close the bridge at five minutes' notice.

Tannatt has sent the men, and says:

It now remains for some one to name the hour when the passage should be closed. Will the general telegraph upon that point and inform me of the result, that I may be fully advised for any emergency.

I have been past the south end of the Aqueduct Bridge. Rifle-pits have been dug this afternoon this side the guard-house on both sides the bridge, and logs are ready near at hand to close the avenue entirely.

G. A. DE RUSSY,
*Brigadier-General.*

ALEXANDRIA, *February* 15, 1864—10.25 p. m.

Colonel TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: My men have scouted as usual to-day. No enemy was seen. Mosby was reported at Difficult Creek yesterday.

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Provost-Marshal-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Harper's Ferry, February* 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Commanding Department of West Virginia:*

GENERAL: If it meets with your approval, I propose sending my cavalry up the valley as far as they can go, at the same time sending a party through Front Royal and Luray to try and cut the railroad at Waynesborough. I have a fine cavalry command, and I think it will be of benefit to them to go on such an expedition. If Averell's command could be sent to Moorefield and Petersburg at the same time, I think I could reach Harrisonburg, or even Staunton, without trouble.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JER. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 15, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Deserters report to Colonel Hall at Beverly that Jackson's command had received their horses and are now mounted. General Jenkins in command, and had sent a mounted force to Franklin, in Pendleton County.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 15, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Please send a company to the bridge east of Bloomington, with instructions to put up the block-house. The timbers I believe are on the ground. Great apprehensions are felt for the safety of the shops and machinery at Piedmont. This company will command the Bloomington road as well as protect the bridge.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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YORKTOWN, *February* 15, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

The captures by the cavalry and gun-boat at Potopotank were one small empty schooner, one sloop with 200 bushels of corn, and one boat. The gun-boat having brought them down, have reported them as their capture to Treasury agent, so I have not interfered.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

Cavalry returned to Williamsburg with 9 more escaped officers. A fresh detachment has gone out.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

I should have explained that refugees and escaped prisoners, knowing of the pickets at all the upper fords and bridges, almost invariably come down parallel with Charles City road, in hopes of finding boats on lower Chickahominy. After crossing it they are pretty safe, but boats are purposely removed by the enemy and only to be had at few points. The refugees and negroes generally cross by swimming. Seventeen leave here by boat to-morrow, including 6 field officers.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Streight is concealed in Richmond, but at large. His friends desire the papers to state his successful arrival here, for obvious reasons. Please arrange it immediately with the Associated Press agent.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FORT MAGRUDER, *February* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General WISTAR,
*Commanding:*

The following are the names:

1. William B. McCreery, colonel Twenty-first Michigan Infantry.
2. H. C. Hobart, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-first Wisconsin Infantry.
3. T. S. West, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-fourth Wisconsin Infantry.
4. Alexander von Mitzel, major Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Infantry.
5. Samuel Clark, captain, Seventy-ninth Illinois Infantry.
6. Gottlieb C. Rose, captain, Fourth Missouri Cavalry.
7. Albert Wallber, adjutant Twenty-sixth Wisconsin Infantry.
8. N. S. McKeen, first lieutenant, Twenty-first Illinois Infantry.
9. George M. Welles, second lieutenant, Eighth Michigan Cavalry.

ROBT. M. WEST,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

Major-General BUTLER:

The above are the 9 officers just arrived at Williamsburg.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General WISTAR,
*Yorktown:*

Richmond papers of 12th, received, say 109 prisoners escaped, and that 25 were recaptured, none less than 20 miles from Richmond. All of them must have crossed the Chickahominy. Have you anything further in regard to them? Many of them must still be secreted in the woods.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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YORKTOWN, *February* 15, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff:*

Probably none of these prisoners recaptured had crossed the Chickahominy. Robertson's cavalry and Holcombe's Legion cavalry are both the other side of Chickahominy for that purpose, besides the infantry. There is no enemy this side, except Hume's scouts, who keep off the main roads and know every path. My cavalry is out after the prisoners, and has been since the first came in. It must go by detachments, of course, having to come back for forage, of which the country supplies none. If one-fourth the escaped prisoners get in it will surprise me, in the face of the regularly organized and long-prepared plan to prevent it. Fifteen have already come.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 16, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, *Army of the Potomac:*

A camp south-southwest from this point has moved; do not know its strength. It was partially concealed by the woods behind the ridge. Cavalry still at the ford. No other change. The smoke seen at Thoroughfare on the 14th arose from a fire in the woods.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

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OFFICE PRO. MAR., HDQRS. 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., February* 16, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I have examined James Smith, Company C, Gilmor's battalion. He had been in the service only six weeks, and was one of the party who robbed the train on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The expedition was commanded by Gilmor in person. They started from Mount Jackson with 27 mounted and 19 dismounted men; the dismounted men were left near White Post, while the mounted men moved on toward the railroad. Shortly after a messenger returned with orders for the dismounted men to proceed up the valley as quickly as possible. Smith states he was dismounted and did not go to the railroad. He reports

Gilmor about 150 to 200 strong and encamped near Mount Jackson. Before joining Gilmor he had been in the rebel navy. He reports three gun-boats about Richmond, viz, the Richmond, the Fredericksburg, and the Virginia. The Richmond mounts four guns; the other two had not their guns on board. Smith refused to give any further information this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. B. HAMILTON,
*Lieut. Col. and Asst. Provost-Marshal of Division.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., February* 16, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

I place but little reliance in the man's statement, except so far as to the number of the raiders, as it is shown that only about 10 men actually participated in the robbery.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February* 16, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of West Virginia, Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: The loss of the First Virginia Infantry and the Fourth West Virginia Cavalry materially weakens this point, and the absence of Colonel Thoburn, always efficient, leaves the Second Brigade without a competent commander. Could not a regiment with an active, intelligent senior colonel be ordered to this point, in order that its strength be increased and the brigade properly commanded?

Respectfully,

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS, *February* 16, 1864.

Captain JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of General Palmer's telegram with reference to change of troops here. Of course I will hold this front even with a corporal's guard as long as I can, but I would rather have 100 men to remain than 300 to be changed as proposed. However, I presume good reasons exist to make this frequent changing necessary. If, however, the reason is that a senior officer to myself would have to be sent with a permanent force, or the commanding general has the least hesitation to increase my command, I respectfully assure the commanding general that I shall be happy to serve under any officer by him deemed more competent or more entitled to command this important front, thereby making this front safe against any raids of the enemy. Raids on these outposts, I think, will in the future be the extent of the enemy's operations.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*February* 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
*Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: In your daily memoranda of the 14th instant you report a skirmish between a party of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry and the enemy, in which Major Larrimer was killed. In that report mention is made of the misbehavior of the main body of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, who, it is stated, could not be prevailed upon to leave the bridge. The major-general commanding directs me to say that if you are not already engaged in preparing a report of that affair, you will please do so as soon as practicable, giving a full statement of all the circumstances in the case, and the names of the officers with this detachment whose conduct was cowardly.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you send a sufficient force of your command at once, for the purpose of capturing Mosby and his party, who are to be at Markham to-night.

The prisoner Cornwell will give you information as to where Mosby will be found. The officer in charge of the party will take with him the prisoner, and if he should lead your party into a trap he will be shot. It is believed that the prisoner's statement is reliable, and you are directed to question him. After the party returns, Cornwell will at once be sent to these headquarters.

The general directs that you will send the party as soon as possible, in order that they may arrive at Markham during the night. Please report by telegraph as soon as the party returns.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Do not act on your suggestion by letter yesterday till I can get the views of the General-in-Chief in regard to the matter. In the mean time keep your scouts active. I suggest you send infantry scouts up both sides of the Shenandoah Valley, as far at least as Berry's Ferry. I forwarded your application to Washington. Nothing new.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Cumberland:*

Hagans has come in; saw no enemy. Reports a rumor that 125 rebel cavalry passed through Wardensville day before yesterday toward Paw Paw. Could not ascertain the truth of it.

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February* 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Commanding Department of North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Send a flag of truce to the rebel forces and notify them that if the members of the North Carolina regiment who have been captured are not treated as prisoners of war we shall enforce the strictest retaliation, and that I hold 2 colonels, 2 lieutenant-colonels, 2 majors, and 2 captains as hostages for their safety. But say also to General Pickett that I have refrained from putting these men in close confinement, because I do not believe the story that any harm is intended to the officers and men of the Second North Carolina Regiment.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. FORCES AND DEFENSES OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 17, 1864.

Col. P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Commanding Outpost:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to say that he wishes efforts made to find a road he is certain exists, that is, some route from Beech Grove to a point on the Neuse road, in rear of the crossing of that road with the Washington road. He is of the opinion that it will be found between the Washington road and the Neuse River, and probably between that road at Batchelder's and Thoroughfare Creeks. Had this road been known a few days since our artillery and infantry might perhaps have escaped from Beech Grove. In case the enemy again occupy the Washington road, it may be of the greatest value to the picket at Beech Grove to know of some line of retreat to New Berne other than by the Washington or Batchelder's Creek and Neuse roads. At the earliest possible day, therefore, the general wishes you to send Lieutenant Wells or some other competent officer to investigate this. Should no path be found, the officer will be directed to see whether a road, practicable at least for infantry, could not be cut through the woods without too much labor. Should it be considered then to have any work of this kind done the general will send you a gang of contrabands to perform the labor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. FORCES AND DEFENSES OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 17, 1864.

Col. CHARLES L. UPHAM,
*Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to send you the following instructions for the pickets at Jack's and railroad bridges. Copies of these orders in each case will be placed in the hands of the corporal of the picket, to be by him turned over to the relief:

JACK'S BRIDGE.

One man will be constantly on post, with his arms. During the day all commissioned officers and all enlisted men with proper passes will be permitted to cross the bridge. All Government teams will be allowed to pass without passes. All logging and other gangs of contrabands going to and coming from their daily labor will be permitted to pass without special passes in each case. All male contrabands alone can only cross when provided with passes from the provost-marshal. No colored women nor children will be permitted to pass at any time, under any pretense. No clothing nor furniture belonging to contrabands will be allowed to cross at any time, inasmuch as the introduction of such property into town is very apt to cause some sickness.

At night the guards will be instructed to take up at least 15 feet of the bridge in the center, piling the planking across the road in rear of the bridge. It will be replaced after reveille. The countersign will be given the guard by the general officer of the day, and all persons will be passed with it. Mounted or foot orderlies will always be passed day and night upon presenting passes that have been approved at these headquarters. Government trains will be passed at any hour of the night, provided the persons in charge have either the countersign or a proper pass approved as above.

RAILROAD BRIDGE.

All orders applicable to Jack's Bridge are applicable here, except that no teams will be allowed to cross, except under circumstances of the most urgent character. The guard should at all times, and especially at night, be on the alert to prevent evil-disposed persons from attempting to fire the bridge. The general commanding directs that in future an officer of your command be designated to look after this picket occasionally and see that they do their duty properly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 18, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 11.15 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

General Pleasonton, chief of cavalry, reports that a scouting party sent from General Gregg's command at Warrenton captured to-day at Piedmont 28 of Mosby's men.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 18, 1864. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Major VINCENT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

I have the honor to report that the total number of re-enlistments in this army up to and including the 15th instant was 23,460.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *February* 18, 1864.

I. Paragraph I, of General Orders, No. 40, of April 10, 1863, from these headquarters, is modified as follows:*

All prisoners, deserters, contrabands, and refugees coming within the lines of this army will be sent, under proper guard, to the provost-marshal-general, without other examination than that provided for in paragraph 1 of General Orders, No. 72, of February 26, 1862. All persons other than the above-named, excepting those provided with the passes required by paragraph VIII of General Orders, No. 10, of February 7, 1863, applying for admission within the lines, on any pretense whatsoever, will be detained at the outer pickets until their applications shall have been acted upon at these headquarters.

II. The requirements of section 1, paragraph IX, of General Orders, No. 27, March 14, 1863, will be strictly complied with, and the persons therein named will not be brought within the lines of this army unless there is reasonable cause to believe that their detention will be permanent.

III. Corps commanders are hereby authorized to pass the picket-lines whenever and wherever, in the performance of their duty, it may become necessary.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. F. BARSTOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*February* 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. W. KESTER,
*Commanding First New Jersey:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that, with 300 men placed under your command, you will proceed to-night at 10 o'clock to Markham and Paris and vicinity, where it is reported bands of guerrillas have their headquarters. Every effort will be made to capture or destroy the leaders and men composing these bands. The guide who will accompany you is familiar with the country and reported to be worthy of confidence. In searching houses supposed to contain guerrillas, all injury to property will be avoided. In making your dispositions, suggestions of the guide will be valuable. It is expected that your command will return to camp to-morrow evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. Second Division.*

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* See Vol. XXV, Part II, p. 197.

CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 18, 1864.
(Received 3.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

Lieutenant-Colonel Hall, commanding at Beverly, reports the return of a scout from Webster County with 17 prisoners, among the number the notorious guerrilla chief Dan. Dusky; also one from Pocahontas County with 5 prisoners, of which one is Major Adams, of the Forty-second Virginia (rebel) Infantry.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., February* 18, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

It is reported that the fords of the Potomac between the mouth of the Monocacy and the Point of Rocks are practicable, and left unguarded, thus opening Maryland to raids of rebel cavalry. Please see to this immediately.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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BUCKHANNON, W. VA., *February* 18, 1864.

General KELLEY.

SIR: We, the undersigned citizens of Upshur County, beg leave to suggest that our military force be strengthened at this place. All that we hold dear and valuable is here, and if we even desired, our effects are not portable. We learn from refugees and deserters that the enemy are preparing for a raid upon us. Therefore, in view of our exposed position, ask that you increase your force at this place.

Most respectfully, &c.,

C. P. ROHRBOUGH,
*Postmaster.*
[And 75 others.]

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*February* 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN,
*Getty's Station:*

We have been compelled to send Third New York Cavalry to North Carolina, leaving but two regiments on the Peninsula. I had hoped that you would be able to relieve Ledlie's brigade when you received One hundred and eighteenth and One hundred and thirty-ninth [New York] Infantry and Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry. If, however, you do not consider your position safe, we will try and send you part of another regiment of cavalry.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff*

GETTY'S STATION, *February* 18, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

If you will send me the cavalry, that, with the One hundred and thirty-ninth New York Volunteers, will be ample to relieve General Ledlie. I cannot spare the One hundred and eighteenth, as I have not sufficient force to make my outposts sufficiently strong. I will order the One hundred and thirty-ninth to report to General Ledlie immediately.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: On receiving most reliable information of the organization of a naval brigade for opening the sounds, with the aid of the rams in the Neuse and Roanoke Rivers, I directed the blocking up of the Neuse with old hulks within range of our batteries. This work is now in progress. I then proceeded to Little Washington and perfected similar arrangements in the Tar River, and fully advised all the authorities of the rebel plans, and gave the necessary orders for foiling them to the extent of our means.

At Plymouth, General Wessells and Captain Flusser advised me that the ram near Halifax was not yet ready. Captain Flusser said he could not sink the hulks without orders from Admiral Lee. He applied for such authority, and I presume it will be granted promptly. If not, I shall send something for the purpose, if it can be found.

Since my return I have examined men respecting the ram at Kinston, and their information is positive, reliable, and confirmatory of what I had advised you. The ram is to be sent down on the next high water. The engine has been taken from Pugh's Mills, and was once in a factory in this city.

Major Wood, who commanded the party that boarded and burned the Underwriter (gun-boat), is a grandson of our late ex-President Taylor.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 19, 1864.

Major BARSTOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The Secretary of War has placed under my immediate orders all regiments now absent from the army for the purpose of reorganization, and has authorized my ordering back all such as are overdue. I wish you therefore to issue an order directing the immediate return of all regiments overdue ten days, stating the order is issued by authority of the Secretary of War. Send copies to the governors of States, superintendents of recruiting service, and to the colonels of regiments.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Enemy are building two lunettes on bluff below Raccoon Ford; also extending new line on each side of road leading from Morton's Ford. No change in enemy's camp.

BARTLEY.

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*February* 19, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: The regiments from this corps on duty at Alexandria are the Eleventh U. S. Infantry, the Forty-fourth New York Volunteers, and the Fifth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps. I am very much opposed to these troops being under the control of the commander at Alexandria, and was always averse to their being sent there. It seems to me that the duty they are required to perform could be quite as well performed stationed with their divisions as at Alexandria. One brigade of the Third Division has been kept about Washington since last July, and I cannot get it in the field. The three regiments now about to be placed under General Briggs will in all probability share the same fate. Surely the regimental commanders can control the discipline and police of their troops. I have great difficulty now in getting returns, reports, &c., from these regiments, owing to their remote stations. If the order indicated in your telegram is issued, am I to retain these regiments on my returns or not?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

A detachment of the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania and Twelfth Virginia, commanded by Captain Smith, of the former regiment, returned this evening from a scout in Hampshire and Hardy Counties. They bring in Captain Kuykendall and Lieutenant Inskeep, of the Seventh Virginia (rebel) Cavalry. Both captured near their homes in Hampshire County. Nothing new. Weather exceedingly cold.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
*Columbus, Ohio, February* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Comdg. Dept. of West Virginia, Cumberland, Md.:*

GENERAL: I have just had an interview with Governor Brough, of Ohio, who has some information of a raid soon to be attempted

from a rebel force to assemble, or already assembling, at Salem, Roanoke County, Va., to move on Gallipolis, or, perhaps of greater dimensions, to cross the Ohio at several places and commit depredations and burn bridges and destroy railroads.

Will you please inform me whether you have any information to justify any alarm, and whether there is any force in position to intercept or prevent such a raid. The force now at Gallipolis is entirely inadequate to protect the stores at that point, even from an ordinary sized band of guerrillas. The force at my disposal is so scattered it would take some time to collect it, and then it would be entirely inadequate to repel any organized force of any magnitude. I inclose a paragraph cut from a newspaper giving another account.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure.]

A correspondent of the Herald at Gallipolis, Ohio, informs me that he has had an interview with Mr. Wyshart, a fugitive and recent conscript from near Jefferson, N. C., and that Mr. W. gives some important information, as follows:

About three weeks ago over thirty new, long, narrow, and open boxes, corked and tarred and made pointed at one end, were sent to Wytheville, in Wythe County, Western Virginia. These boxes were styled pontoons. Officers had arrived and sent out men to collect strong, light wagons and good horses from the farmers of the neighborhood.

It was whispered among military men that there would soon be a raid made into Ohio, and that the pontoons referred to would be drawn overland to either the New or Kanawha River, and worked and floated down the Ohio, and that the same would be crossed at two points, one column going by way of Barboursville and Guyandotte. It was rumored and expected that troops would arrive for concentration from both the Eastern and Western rebel armies.

In regard to the above report, I can only say that rumors have been in circulation for some time past of mysterious movements on the line of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Fort Monroe, February* 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN,
*Getty's Line:*

You will make such disposition of the troops under your command as you deem best. It was not the intention to direct that any particular regiment should go to Ledlie. The two regiments were sent that you might be enabled to relieve the veterans. I would suggest that you send a regiment with a good commanding officer, as Ledlie may be granted leave of absence.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS,
*Fort Monroe, February* 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN, *Getty's Station:*

I have ordered Baker's District of Columbia Cavalry, about 350 men, well armed, from Newport News, to report to you. Will you please arrange as soon as possible to get the veterans of Ledlie's brigade relieved, that they may go North.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. FORCES AND DEFENSES OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 19, 1864.

Maj. BENJAMIN B. FOSTER,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army and Dist. of North Carolina:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to transmit a statement in detail of the strength and disposition of the forces under my command, as requested in your note of the 10th instant:

*Cavalry.*

| | Men. |
|---|---|
| Twelfth Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry, Col. James W. Savage (eight companies): | |
| Companies A, C, H, and M, stationed at Camp Palmer | 210 |
| Companies E and G, stationed at Rock Run | 108 |
| Company K, stationed at Brice's Creek | 35 |
| Company L, stationed at Batchelder's Creek | 47 |
| Total | 400 |
| Third Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry, Lieut. Col. George W. Lewis (five companies), stationed at Grove Camp | 207 |

*Artillery.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Third Regiment New York Light Artillery, Col. Charles H. Stewart (four batteries present): Batteries C, E, I, and K, stationed in New Berne | 438 |
| Fifth Regiment Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Col. Henry T. Sisson (seven companies present): | |
| Company B, stationed at Fort Spinola | 62 |
| Companies D and I, stationed at Fort Totten | 86 |
| Company F, stationed at Fort Rowan | 55 |
| Company G, stationed at Fort Amory | 45 |
| Company H, stationed at Fort Stevenson | 43 |
| Company K, stationed at Fort Gaston | 34 |
| Total | 325 |
| Second Battalion Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (two companies), stationed at Fort Totten | 210 |

*Infantry.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Seventeenth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Col. T. J. C. Amory (ten companies present): | |
| Five companies on provost-guard duty | 226 |
| Five companies in rear of Fort Totten | 212 |
| Total | 438 |
| One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, Col. P. J. Claassen (ten companies), stationed at Batchelder's Creek | 470 |
| Ninety-ninth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, Col. D. W. Wardrop (ten companies), stationed at New Berne | 372 |
| Ninety-second Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. Hiram Anderson, jr. (ten companies): | |
| Nine companies stationed at Fort Anderson | 291 |
| One company stationed at Fort Chase | 52 |
| Total | 343 |

| | Men |
|---|---|
| Nineteenth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. R. M. Strong (ten companies): | |
| Eight companies stationed in New Berne, south side Trent River.. | 363 |
| One company stationed at Evans' Mills | 57 |
| One company stationed at Brice's Creek | 41 |
| Total | 461 |
| Fifteenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, Col. Charles L. Upham (ten companies), stationed in New Berne fair-grounds | 516 |
| Twenty-first Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, Col. A. H. Dutton (ten companies), stationed in New Berne | 477 |
| First Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry (ten companies), stationed in New Berne, south side Trent River | 767 |

*Armament of forts.*

Fort Anderson: One 32-pounder rifle; three 32-pounders, smooth; one 32-pounder carronade; one 24-pounder howitzer; one 12-pounder howitzer.

Fort Rowan: One 100-pounder Parrott; two 32-pounders, long; one 3-inch rifle, brass; one 3-inch rifle, steel; two 8-inch mortars.

Fort Stevenson: One 32-pounder rifle; four 32-pounders, long.

Fort Gaston: Four 32-pounders, long; three 32-pounders, short.

Fort Totten: Four 32-pounder howitzers; nine 32-pounders, long; two 32-pounder rifles; nine 32-pounder carronades; one 8-inch Columbiad; two 8-inch mortars.

Fort Amory: Three 32-pounders, long.

Fort Spinola: Six 32-pounders, long; two 32-pounder rifles.

Fort Chase: Three 24-pounders.

Monitor Car: Batchelder's Creek, two Wiards, 2.6.

Third Regiment New York Volunteer Artillery: Ten pieces, 3-inch; four pieces, 3.67-inch; six pieces, 4.62-inch.

*Recapitulation of troops.*

| | Men. |
|---|---|
| 12th Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry | 400 |
| 3d Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry | 207 |
| 3d Regiment New York VolunteerArtillery | 438 |
| 5th Regiment Rhode Island Artillery | 325 |
| Detachment Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery | 210 |
| 17th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry | 438 |
| 132d New York Volunteer Infantry | 470 |
| 99th New York Volunteer Infantry | 372 |
| 92d New York Volunteer Infantry | 343 |
| 19th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry | 461 |
| 15th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry | 516 |
| 21st Connecticut Volunteer Infantry | 477 |
| 1st U. S. Colored Infantry | 767 |
| Total | 5,424 |

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 20, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 6 p. m.)

D. H. RUCKER,
*Washington:*

Please send 10 gallons turpentine, in very strong 2-gallon cans, and 100 pounds oakum to Capt. P. P. Pitkin, assistant quartermaster Brandy Station, to-morrow. These articles are wanted for important and immediate use.

RUFUS INGALLS,
*Chief Quartermaster.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 20, 1864.

Major-General SEDGWICK:

Have heard nothing in regard to the report of General French last night. Have just telegraphed General Pleasonton inquiring.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 20, 1864.

Major-General SEDGWICK:

General Pleasonton reports that the reconnaissance sent out this morning report the woods on fire, but no enemy are to be seen or found.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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FEBRUARY 20, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

The officer in charge of picket reports a large column of smoke seen yesterday at 11 a. m. 6 miles in his front, on Sperryville pike; also, at 9 p. m., saw several large fires 4 miles to right of Sperryville pike and about 8 miles from Culpeper. Did Bartley see either of the above? If not, look this a. m. for smoke where the fires were last night. Report upon this immediately. There may be some scouting party of the enemy in that neighborhood.

NORTON.

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CULPEPER, *February* 20, 1864.

Col. C. R. SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The reconnaissance sent out to find out the cause of fires seen to the left of General Birney's line reports fires caused by burning of grass in that neighborhood in direction Slate Mills and Amissville. No force of enemy there, nor signs of any. A few mounted men, and nothing more, seen.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, February* 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

GENERAL: The Secretary of War directs that you report your losses of men, animals, transportation, ordnance, quartermaster's, and commissary stores in the last two movements of the rebel forces in West Virginia, and also, so far as you have means of knowing, the captures from and losses of the enemy in these operations.

The Secretary also desires you to report fully the circumstances of the capture by the enemy of any of your trains; what was the extent of each of these captures; in what manner and with what force they were convoyed; who commanded the convoys; through whose fault, if any, the captures were made. Also what damage was done by the enemy to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and what bridges were destroyed or injured; whether such bridges were protected by block-houses or otherwise, and through whose fault, if any, the injury occurred.

It is reported that the enemy captured in recent raids and drove off from West Virginia a large number of cattle, sheep, and other animals belonging to private individuals. The Secretary desires that you report such information as you may have of these captures, and also what measures were taken to prevent them and to recover the property after capture.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 20, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 9.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

General Sullivan reports that one of his cavalry scouts has just returned, bringing in 16 prisoners (3 rebel officers), all captured near Piedmont Station, in Fauquier County. There is a great number of officers and men now home on furlough in the border counties of Virginia. My scouting parties are active, capturing more or less every day.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN, *Harper's Ferry:*

I cannot go down to-morrow. Will try and be with you on Wednesday. I gave orders in regard to coal. I suggest for your consideration the establishing a chain of infantry pickets from the Shenandoah River, via Charlestown, to Leetown (to connect with the pickets from Martinsburg at the latter place), with cavalry vedettes. It will prevent the sons of farmers in the neighborhood who belong to the rebel army from coming here in citizens' dress one at a time until they are strong enough to rob and steal, or stop and rob trains.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 20, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General CROOK, *Charleston:*

Keep your scouting parties out and active. There are great numbers of rebels home on furlough in all the border counties, and many of them can be captured if scouts are vigilant.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of the 17th, and to state that on the same day I addressed you I wrote General Pickett, giving him a list of loyal North Carolinians who had enlisted in the Second North Carolina Regiment, and demanded they should be treated as prisoners of war. I will write again as indicated by you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*North Carolina:*

GENERAL: I have received the inclosed from Admiral Lee. Of course if you desire to sink the light boats for obstructions in the river, sink them, because I do [not] mean to cripple you or to interfere with your judgment as to means of defense; but I believe Plymouth is as safe as Fortress Monroe, provided you keep from being surprised. I don't believe in the iron-clad arrangement, and if you cannot deal with her from the point we visited together with your 200-pounder Parrott I shall be very much surprised. I do not think your danger, if any, lies there. The possibility of capture lies in this, or at least this is the way I should undertake to capture Plymouth if I had that iron-clad and was at Halifax: I should get plenty of barges and launches and come floating silently down in the night, land just above your obstructions, and seize your fort with the 200-pounder Parrott before your sleepy sentinel woke up, and then bring down my iron-clad, keeping your navy below by means of your fort and Parrott.

At Halifax the rebels are preparing a sort of naval flotilla of barges, and I [have] no doubt for this purpose. "Forewarned, forearmed." I would suggest one of your smallest and quickest steamboats above the obstructions far enough to give the alarm, with a wide-awake man on board.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
*Off Newport News, Va., February* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: I am informed by Lieutenant-Commander Flusser, U. S. steamer Miami, that General Peck desires the senior naval officer at Plymouth to sink the two light boats now there in the opening in

the piling obstructions above the town. I would suggest that the defense of obstructions should be left to the military authorities, and, if thought necessary by them, conducted by their engineers.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, yours,

S. P. LEE,

*Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: In view of a probable reorganization of this army, I have the honor to submit the following suggestions as to the artillery:

First. That an officer of suitable rank to command it, with a proper allowance of field officers, should be furnished to the artillery of each corps.

Second. That a suitable force be attached to the artillery to furnish the guards, escorts, working parties, details, &c., the whole to be under the command of the chief of artillery of the corps.

Third. That the ammunition column, at least of the artillery, be always under the command of an officer responsible to the chief of artillery for its condition and safety and for the supply of ammunition. I would further urge that the artillery ammunition be transported in caissons, if they can be obtained, and would suggest the propriety of placing the infantry ammunition in the same column and of using caissons also for that.

In regard to the first proposition, the orders now in force depriving the field artillery of field officers have been the cause of much trouble, difficulty, and injury to the public service. The artillery brigades of the corps have been commanded mostly by captains, who have been removed from their appropriate commands and duties, to the injury of their batteries, to exercise commands and functions far above their rank.

In every army with the organization of whose artillery I am acquainted there is a field officer to every two batteries (constituting a division), and other superior officers for every two or more divisions. In the British service, for instance, a brigade consists of 1 colonel commandant (a major-general), 2 colonels, 4 lieutenant-colonels, and 8 batteries, with the proper staff, exclusive of the battery officers. Our own tactics require a colonel or lieutenant-colonel and two majors for four batteries serving together, with an adjutant and two assistant adjutants. The policy of depriving us of field and partially of company officers has injured the efficiency and doubled the labor of artillery commanders. The artillery in battle covers a great deal of ground, and requires more supervision than infantry. The batteries are often necessarily, from the formation of the ground, separated by wide intervals, and yet they must work in harmony for a given object. Without officers to supervise and direct them this is almost impracticable. After a battle the batteries must be refitted, supplied with ammunition, repairs effected, and placed in condition for service on the march by dawn of the next day. This sometimes involves almost a reorganization. It cannot be well done without officers.

I called attention specially to the subject in my reports of the battles of Chancellorsville and of Gettysburg. In the first battle, for the artillery of the army (412 guns, 980 artillery carriages, 9,543 men, 8,544 horses, besides their large ammunition trains, and these distributed throughout the army), I had but five field officers, and these, for the want of disposable battery officers, had miserably inefficient staffs. In the Gettysburg campaign, with sixty-seven batteries (372 guns, 320 of which were on the field, with over 8,000 men and 7,000 horses, and the necessary material pertaining to them), I had in the whole army but one general officer (commanding the artillery reserve) and four field officers. Of the seven corps present the artillery of three corps was commanded by captains, and that of one corps by a young lieutenant. Both brigades of horse artillery were commanded by captains. These facts need no comment, yet those only who were charged with the management of such a force with so little aid can fully appreciate the evils and difficulties to which they led.

Second. The force asked for as guards, &c., can best be furnished by assigning to this army two or three additional regiments of foot artillery, from which the details for all purposes can be made by the chief of artillery, and this arm be relieved from its present dependence on the infantry. The duties must be performed and men are required to perform them. It is now done by drawing from time to time regiments from infantry brigades and the assignment of men from regiments to serve as drivers and cannoneers in the batteries, to the injury of both branches of the service and a continual struggle and ill feeling between them.

Third. The assignment of these regiments of foot artillery will allow provision to be made for the third proposition, and if suitable regiments are designated will do much to correct the evils for which the first proposition provides.

Many of our best officers of field artillery have left that arm to accept the promotion in foot artillery and elsewhere that they could not obtain in their own branch of the service. If the regiments of such officers or regiments that could be raised by them (Lieutenant-Colonel Best, inspector-general, Twelfth Army Corps, Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan, inspector-general, Second Army Corps, and Lieutenant-Colonel Platt, judge-advocate of this army, for example) were assigned to duty in the field, they would furnish them good chiefs of artillery and the necessary details, &c.

In relation to the use of caissons for ammunition, I inclose copy of a letter addressed by me to Brigadier-General Ingalls, dated September 30, 1863.* Each caisson for infantry ammunition will carry in its three chests as much ammunition as 6 horses can haul, and I think that 27,000 rounds can easily be packed in the chests. These caissons can be driven, guarded, and served by companies of foot artillery, and can be driven upon the field and regiments and brigades supplied whilst under fire. The want of such an organization is to be read in the reports of troops leaving the field for want of ammunition. By law chiefs of artillery of divisions and corps are *ex-officio* chiefs of ordnance for the troops to which they are attached, and the supply of ammunition on the field could be properly required of them if the means of performing the duty were supplied them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,

*Brig. Gen., Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac.*

*See Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 237.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February* 21, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

CAPTAIN: That the general commanding may be informed, I have the honor to report that the Irish Brigade, Twenty-third [Illinois] Infantry, a section of Carlin's battery, and two companies of the Ringgold Battalion moved this day to permanently occupy Greenland Gap.

Faithfully,

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 21, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

A refugee reports Imboden passing through Staunton a few days since, going toward Monterey, with 2,000 men and artillery. Send a small mounted scout up on the west side of Knobly Mountain and communicate with Captain Harper, of the "Swamps," and learn if he has any information of Imboden; if not, get him to send a scout to Crab Bottom for the purpose of ascertaining if Imboden is in that country or gone west.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Clarksburg, W. Va., February* 21, 1864.

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL, *A. A. A. G., New Creek, W. Va.:*

LIEUTENANT: A rebel prisoner belonging to Echols' command was brought into Bulltown to-day. His tale is as follows:

He left about twenty-one days since. The command was then at Greenbrier bridge and numbered nearly 3,000 men, mostly infantry, and one battery. Jenkins was at Callahan's Station, and reported to have 5,000 mounted men and one battery; McCausland at Princeton with three regiments; Jackson near Warm Springs.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. WILKINSON,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February* 23, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for information of the general commanding department.

JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 22, 1864.

General M. R. PATRICK,
*Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: The artillery of this army consists of one brigade attached to each corps d'armée, two brigades (six batteries each) of

horse artillery, which take turns for service with the cavalry, and the artillery reserve proper, consisting of twelve batteries (field batteries and siege guns). The general ammunition train of the army and the Sixth New York Artillery as its guards are also under the command of the commander of the reserve.

The brigade of horse artillery in reserve is placed under the orders of the commander of reserve artillery when not serving with troops. The whole command constitutes what in other armies would be called the grand park of the artillery, to which the reserve artillery is usually attached. The horse artillery is relieved by brigades, so that each brigade constitutes a unit. The brigades of horse artillery in reserve sometimes furnish temporary re-enforcements of batteries to the brigades in the field or when ordered for other purposes; but as a rule the horse artillery serves and is detailed by brigades.

The mounted batteries (reserve artillery proper) are, for convenience, divided from time to time into two or more brigades. These brigades are not like those attached to corps, independent; they vary in strength and composition, according to their numbers, employment, the number of disposable field officers, &c.

My proposition, approved by you, as I understood, was to give to each unit of force 1 sutler, and but 1, viz: To each brigade attached to a corps, 1 sutler; to each brigade of horse artillery, 1 sutler; to the Sixth New York Foot Artillery (a regiment of volunteers), 1 sutler; to the mounted batteries constituting the reserve proper and for the train attached to it, 1 sutler.

The sutlers are as follows, as now recognized:

1. Mercer Brown, appointed sutler in December, 1861, of the Artillery Reserve by the council of administration. Appointment approved by me and, if I remember right, by General Barry, as chief of artillery, and General McClellan, commanding the army, under paragraph 214, General Regulations.
2. A. Foulke, First Brigade of Horse Artillery (Robertson's).
3. John Nilan, Second Brigade of Horse Artillery (Graham's).
4. Thomas McCauly, Sixth New York Foot Artillery (Colonel Kitching).

Artillery from the reserve is detailed for temporary service by batteries, not by brigades. If to occupy a position its sutler must provide for it, if necessary. If permanently transferred to a corps it enters the brigade of that corps, and of course is supplied by the corps sutler. There is no artillery in this army outside of the organizations named.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Division, Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: The attention of the general commanding having been called to letters written by E. A. Paul, the correspondent of the New York Times, and especially to one published in that newspaper of the 10th instant, in which certain captured letters are referred to,

he directs me to say that he wishes to be informed as to the authority by which this correspondent is permitted to gain information in direct violation of existing orders; also why the captured letters referred to were not forwarded to these headquarters without delay. He directs that the orders in relation to these matters be strictly carried out in future.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February 22, 1864.*

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry:*

I am informed that the enemy's outpost, 700 strong, moved from Fisher's Hill, 2 miles this side of Strasburg, this morning.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February 22, 1864.*

Colonel HALL,
*Beverly:*

It is reported that Imboden with his command is on the North Fork. Keep your scouts active on the Seneca road.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 24.

HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, Va., February 22, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. M. P. Small, commissary of subsistence, is hereby announced as the chief commissary of subsistence of this department, on the staff of the major-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler.

R. S. DAVIS,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 22, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Have just returned from Newport and Bogue Sound, and learn that General Pickett has been arrested and that General Armistead is at Kinston in command.* From all sources the intelligence is that an attack is contemplated on New Berne and this portion of my lines. Doubtless forces from Virginia will come by rail and a grand assault will be ordered.

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*Armistead was killed at Gettysburg July 3, 1863.

I hope some old hulks may me sent from Norfolk through the canal. We need axes, shovels, &c., very much, and I hope Colonel Biggs will send on such as he may have of what has been required.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, February 23, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. DIX,
*New York City:*

GENERAL: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant.

I believe the authorities here are fully aware of the desperate efforts making by the rebels for a campaign the coming spring, and I know of no efforts omitted by the Executive Department of the Government to increase our own forces in the field. But of course nothing could be done in regard to a draft until the bill passed Congress, which has been debating it for nearly three months. I presume that, now that the law has passed, very active measures will be taken to carry it into execution; but this will take time, and the forces so raised will not be available until the first shock of the campaign is over. It certainly is to be regretted that there has been so much delay in Congress.

I cannot agree with you in regard to the use of local militia and temporary enlistments of volunteers to occupy our forts, harbors, and intrenchments. Such troops are exceedingly expensive and of very little use in actual service. They have already cost us hundreds of millions, with very little advantage. Moreover, the raising of such troops in any State diminishes the volunteering for old and new regiments nearly equal to the same amount of force.

After the experience of the past three years, I think it would not be wise to resort to local militia and short enlistments, except in cases of absolute necessity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 23, 1864—6.25 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST ARMY CORPS:

Very heavy smoke still seen behind Lost Mountain, west of Madison Court-House. Cannot tell what is the cause. Will watch it closely.

WIGGINS.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT:

I send you a copy of a dispatch from General Humphreys. The general commanding directs that you send out a reconnaissance as directed in the dispatch.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 23, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

Signal officer at Pony Mountain reports a large column of smoke seen west of Thoroughfare Mountain and just north of Madison. The major-general commanding directs that a reconnaissance be sent out to Thoroughfare Mountain to ascertain if any movement of the enemy is going on in that direction. Some one should ascend the mountain.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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FEBRUARY 23, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff:*

The reconnaissance to the Thoroughfare Mountain to-day developed no movement of the enemy. The smoke arose from a fire in the woods west of Cedar Mountain.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *February* 23, 1864.
(Received 5.12 a. m.)

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR, *Chief of Staff:*

The cavalry sent out last night have returned. They followed the route of the rebel cavalry as far as Goose Creek. Mosby had about fifteen hours' start, and was moving rapidly toward Snicker's Gap. Seven wounded men and the bodies of 8 killed have been brought in. About 70 men are still unaccounted for. I will telegraph more fully to-night.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., February* 23, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

The Fourteenth New Hampshire Volunteers will be returned to this city.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., February* 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
*Commanding Northern Department, Columbus, Ohio:*

GENERAL: Yours of the 19th came duly to hand, inclosing a slip cut from a newspaper, giving the views of a correspondent of the New York Herald upon the subject of an anticipated raid into West

Virginia and Ohio. My attention has been directed to this matter for some time, and I have and do yet feel much anxiety on the subject. Although I have no positive evidence that this movement is contemplated by the rebel authorities, yet I have learned through my scouts and from other sources that the enemy are active along the line of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, either making preparations for a movement on us by way of the Kanawha Valley or are making preparations to resist a movement from my forces either from Beverly or the Kanawha Valley.

I think the forces to protect the stores and other public property at Gallipolis should be increased. If there are no other troops to spare, a few companies of invalids would answer the purpose. A strong force would not be required as long as I hold the Kanawha Valley and the country between the Ohio River and the Alleghany Mountains. If we had two or three light-draught gun-boats to patrol the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers from Charleston, W. Va., to and below Gallipolis, it would give great security to that region of country. May I venture to suggest to you to call Governor Brough's attention to this and ask his co-operation?

I will keep you fully advised of all information I may acquire touching this matter.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., February* 23, 1864.

C. P. ROHRBOUGH, LEVI LEONARD, T. G. FARNSWORTH, and others:

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 18th instant, praying for an increase of force at Buckhannon.

The general commanding directs me to say in reply that at present he has not a sufficient number of troops at his disposal to warrant him in granting your request, except in one company of the Third Virginia Cavalry, which has been ordered to report to Major Bowen; also that most gladly, were it in his power, would he give thorough protection to every loyal man, woman, and child within the limits of his department; but all he can hope to do is to make the best use of the troops under his command, and extend that protection as far as possible. He directs me to say further that he hopes soon to have an increase of force from re-enlistments and otherwise, when the good people of Buckhannon shall not be neglected.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. KELLEY,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, *February* 23, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS, *Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

General Averell telegraphs he has information the rebels are this side Strasburg. Keep your command in readiness, and detain the Fifteenth New York Cavalry if they have orders to move. Inform the railroad guards and be very watchful.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 23, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 20th has just reached me, and I agree with your views except in one particular, viz: I don't believe in the iron-clad. Hitherto it has been a question of iron and time. A communication from General Wessells of the same date as yours settles the matter in my judgment. His spy has just come in from Halifax. He came from Wilmington, and 25,000 pounds of iron was on the same train for this identical gun-boat. The general writes that other parties from near Garysburg, who have not seen the boat, confirm the reports of the shipment of iron. He adds the following: "In view of the possibility of such a monster coming down it would be well, I think, to procure the hulks, if practicable, and cause them to be sunk in suitable places."

Admiral Lee gives no authority for the light boats, but I will send a copy of your letter to General Wessells for his guidance and as his authority to sink said boats when the necessities of the defense require it. I will send an officer of the quartermaster's department to your headquarters for any old hulks that can be spared.

Commanders Davenport and Blake have just called to say that the latter leaves to-morrow with the Eutaw, which I regret very much. Doubtless the admiral will supply her place.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 23, 1864.*

General H. W. WESSELLS,
*Commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle:*

I send you a copy of a letter* from General Butler on the ram, light boats, &c. If the exigencies demand, use the light boats under the authority of General Butler's letter. I have this day ordered a tug to leave with several hulks of the army, which you can use. It is desirable to use these if time permits, instead of those of Admiral Lee's. If you have not enough let me know. Have a board of survey to recommend them for blockading purposes.

Your information of the ram and iron is correct, in my opinion, and I have advised General Butler. Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell called, but it was not possible for me to see him. The report of his capital affair was received by General Palmer in my absence and publicity given. Learning that the affair in some way was confounded with Colonel Jourdan's I sent for the agent of the Associated Press and directed him to correct the matter, and he has already taken the proper steps. All the affairs in your district are brought to Major-General Butler's notice in the same manner as in other districts.

The mustering officer has reported the reasons for the delays. He goes to your district this day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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*See p. 580.

PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 24, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

A brigade of infantry moving down in direction of Morton's Ford.

BARTLEY.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 24, 1864.

Lieutenant BARTLEY:

Watch that brigade closely. How far from Morton's Ford are they, and where did they come from?

NORTON.

---

PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 24, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

They were pickets. They came from Clark's Mountain. The others have gone back.

BARTLEY.

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FEBRUARY 24, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Lieutenant BARTLEY, *Pony Mountain:*

Was it our infantry or rebel?

NORTON.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 24, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

Rebel.

BARTLEY.

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
*February* 24, 1864.

Captain TAYLOR
(*Through Third Cavalry Division headquarters*):

Pony Mountain reports a brigade of rebel infantry moving down in direction of Morton's Ford. Keep a sharp lookout for them and report their progress and intention, if learned.

NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *February* 24, 1864—1 p. m.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

A brigade of the enemy's infantry came down this a. m. to point of woods near Stringfellow's Ford, where his pickets were stationed, and relieved the pickets on our front. Probably that was what was reported by Pony Mountain. The old pickets, five regiments, have just moved back toward camp.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

CEDAR MOUNTAIN, *February* 24, 1864.

COMMANDING GENERAL FIRST ARMY CORPS:

The smoke along Lost Mountain keeps constantly changing in position. I think it must be fire in the woods. Deserters report Lomax's cavalry brigade as being disbanded to recruit. No other change.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, *February* 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

A party of about 50 men, sent out to-day to bring in stray horses and stragglers, has returned. They discovered a strong picket on the road above Dranesville, and bring back the report that the enemy are 600 strong on Goose Creek. I shall send all the cavalry I can raise from Vienna to-morrow to scout in that direction. I think it probable that the enemy's force is considerable. Could not an arrangement be made with the Army of the Potomac to send a force above Goose Creek to try and cut them off from the mountains?

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FAIRFAX STATION, VA., *February* 24, 1864—6.55 p. m.

Colonel FLOOD, *Burke's Station:*

A large number of the enemy's cavalry have shown themselves on the south side of Devereux. As this latter place is pretty well protected, it may be likely they will visit some other part of the railroad. You will therefore exercise unusual vigilance.

Respectfully,

MATHEW MURPHY,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *February* 24, 1864.
(Received 9.55 p. m.)

Col. J. H. TAYLOR, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that a dispatch was received about 7 p. m., from Colonel Murphy, commanding brigade, to the effect that a number of rebel cavalry was seen a short time before on the road south of Devereux. The regimental commanders along the line of the railroad have been notified. Up to this hour all is quiet.

R. O TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*February* 24, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 11.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

Lieutenant-Colonel Quirk, of the Twenty-third Illinois, commanding detachment at Greenland Gap, reports that he has information that a rebel force is at Franklin, in Pendleton County, estimated at

7,000 men, commanded by Echols, Jackson, Jenkins, and Imboden. There is undoubtedly considerable force in that neighborhood, but I do not think the force is as strong as represented. Cavalry scouts have been ordered to reconnoiter in that direction. I return to Cumberland to-morrow.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MORGANTOWN, W. VA., *February* 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY:

DEAR SIR: I have learned from high authority that the rebels design another raid in here within the next month, and that a great many scattering ones are through here now armed to teeth ready to join whenever they do come, provided the weather and the roads continue as they have been. If such be the fact, you should have an eye to the Northwestern road near Rowlesburg, where they can pass with impunity. I hope you will have that matter investigated I wrote you about last. We are all well. Mr. Moore is improving.

Respectfully, your friend,

GEO. D. EVANS.

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HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *February* 24, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS, *Martinsburg, Va.:*

Send the Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Reserve Corps at once to Kearneysville, where the commanding officer will receive instructions as to the disposition of his regiment, from a staff officer from these headquarters. Send the Third Pennsylvania Volunteer Reserve Corps to Van Clevesville. Orders will be sent them there. The transportation of both regiments will follow.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry:*

I am informed that Gilmor set out with 80 men night before last to attempt something upon the railroad. It was said his course would be via Smithfield or through that section.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, *February* 24, 1864.

General AVERELL:

It is reported that Echols, Jenkins, Jackson, and Imboden are at Franklin, in Pendleton County. Hold your command in readiness to move into the South Branch Valley, if necessary. Please meet me at cars; I will be on west-bound train.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Every day and hour, almost, brings testimony bearing upon the plan of the Confederate authorities for driving us out of the Old North State. It has been substantially communicated by me. Mr. W. C. Hall was the general ticket agent of this railway and was carried to Graham, with his family, against his wishes by General Branch. He has just arrived from Goldsborough, Kinston, &c. General Pickett's headquarters are now at Goldsborough, where he has two brigades. General Hoke commands at Kinston, and three brigades are there. Other troops are so situated that he can concentrate 25,000 men, and perhaps more, in a few hours. The present intention is to attack us as soon as the gun-boat can get down. Mr. Hall visited the ram on Monday of this week, and confirms all that has been reported. Her machinery is all in and she is about ready. Mr. Hall is about fifty-five years of age, of intelligence and extensive acquaintance, and has come back with his family.

The plan will be of a general assault upon New Berne at dawn or a little before. Pickett will probably be aided by troops from Lee or Richmond. Hooker moved about April 26, and I do not see how Meade can employ Lee much earlier, if he is governed by the experience of the past. Lee can aid his friend Pickett to any reasonable extent long before the intelligence can reach our proper authorities.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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MITCHELL'S, *February* 25, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel KINGSBURY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have information of much cheering by the rebels; also of the changing of the pickets from infantry to cavalry this morning in our front. They must have some good news.

S. H. LEONARD,
*Commanding.*

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MITCHELL'S, *February* 25, 1864.

General NEWTON:

It was reported to me by field officer of the picket-line that cavalry are now doing the duty. The same story is from the cavalry on our left. I have nothing further. I will investigate more fully in morning and report.

S. H. LEONARD,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *February* 25, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON, *Washington:*

I desire you to return to-night, if possible. Telegraph Colonel Devereux at Alexandria, and see if he cannot send you through to-night.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, VA., *February* 25, 1864.
(Received 10.40 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Five hundred and thirty cavalry left Vienna this morning to reconnoiter toward Leesburg. Some rebel cavalry showed themselves in the vicinity of Devereux this morning. A force of infantry sent after them has returned, which went as far as Wolf Run Shoals. The commander of the party reports that he heard that the Fourth Virginia Cavalry are encamped at Bacon Race. Everything quiet to-night.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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MARTINSBURG, VA., *February* 25, 1864.

Captain BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Three deserters just in from Walker's brigade; left Walker at Harrisonburg with 1,500 men. Rosser and Imboden at Mount Crawford. Say they heard of no movement. I shall leave Bunker Hill in the morning at 8 o'clock.

R. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *February* 25, 1864.

Col. R. S. RODGERS,
*Martinsburg, Va.:*

The force from here will not arrive at Winchester before some time to-morrow. If your force has not moved wait till noon and go as far as Bunker Hill to-day, making Winchester early to-morrow.

By order of Brigadier-General Sullivan:

F. A. NIMS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, February* 25, 1864.

Colonel WEST,
*Commanding Yorktown:*

COLONEL: This note will be handed to you by R. A. Fraser, esq., a refugee from Virginia, who wishes to go near West Point and recover some property there. If you will arrange and send a small force with Captain Babcock and his gun-boat, and the captain will aid him, I think you will be doing good to the cause.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

FORT MAGRUDER, *February* 25, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS:

The enemy's scouts are collecting all the negro men, women, and children in the country in front of us, and carrying off both them and their stock. This I have just learned from negroes who have come in this p. m. I have ordered out 200 infantry, 100 cavalry, and a train of 15 wagons to start early in the morning and bring in all who want to come with their effects. There are quite a number. I issued the order to save time; can countermand if you do not approve. If the movement is made it will necessitate the delay of the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts detachment, as I shall be compelled to take 100 of that detachment to get a reliable detail in time to move early in the morning. Please answer soon.

ROBT. M. WEST,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 26, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Advices from General Grant indicate that Longstreet is falling back from Tennessee toward Virginia.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 93. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE, *Washington, February* 26, 1864.

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XXXII. Brig. Gen. H. G. Wright, U. S. Volunteers, will at once report in person for temporary duty to the commanding general of the Army of the Potomac.

On the completion of this duty he will return to this city and resume his duties as a member of the Board of Engineers convened by Special Orders, No. 41, January 27, 1864, from this office.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

W. A. NICHOLS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 26, 1864—4 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
*Chief of Artillery:*

The major-general commanding directs that you order Captain Pennington to report with his battery of light artillery and two extra caissons of ammunition to General Kilpatrick. The movement of the battery should be made so as to escape the observation of the enemy, and so far as practicable that of our own army.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, OFFICE OF CHIEF Q. M.,
*Camp near Brandy Station, February 26, 1864.*

Maj. S. F. BARSTOW,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to call the attention of the general commanding to the subject of pioneers and wagon or train guards with this army. I can find no order regulating the manner of detail or the number of pioneers to a division or corps.

I have an order regulating the number of tools to be carried by the pioneers, viz: One-half to have axes and the others to have two spades or shovels to one pick, which answer all purposes. I would respectfully recommend that 10 men be detailed from each regiment in a division, with a proper number of officers and non-commissioned officers, to serve as pioneers and train guards to the division trains on marches. In every corps the trains will be organized by divisions. All these men will carry their arms and such tools as the nature of the roads may require.

It is believed that such a force with the trains will give very important advantages and secure our trains against delays and losses by bad roads or the enemy. In past campaigns the want of uniformity and system as to such details was often embarrassing. Officers in charge of pioneers should comply wi h requisitions of quartermasters for working parties to repair roads, &c., and should superintend the work. I would also ask that 1 lieutenant, 2 sergeants, 2 corporals, and 25 privates may be selected from the pioneers of the divisions, mounted and put under the orders of the chief quartermasters of corps, to go in advance of the trains or to distant points for the repair of roads, &c. This party of 30 in all will be of great service on marches. They can be readily mounted with means at the command of the department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
RUFUS INGALLS,
*Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.*

[Inclosure.]

1. Each brigade commander of this army will detail from his command 1 lieutenant, 3 non-commissioned officers, and a number of privates equal to 2 per cent. of his effective force, to form his brigade pioneer party. Each division commander will detail a captain, who, when the brigade parties in the division are consolidated, will command the whole, and who will, when the brigade parties are separated, remain with the party belonging to his own brigade.

2. These officers, non-commissioned officers, and men will be selected for their fitness for pioneer service.

3. One-half of the privates will carry axes, one-third shovels, one-sixth picks; their knapsacks will be carried in wagons when practicable. The quartermaster's department, on requisition, will furnish horses and equipments for the officers.

4. On the march the pioneers of the division will be consolidated and be directly under the control of the division commander; their place will be at the head of the column.

5. The duties of pioneers will be the construction and repair of roads, bridges, and such temporary defenses as the division commander shall direct. The officers, by inquiry and personal examination, will obtain all possible information about the roads over which the division is to pass. The efficiency of the pioneers will depend very largely on their energy and good judgment.

FEBRUARY 26, 1864.

Colonel LEONARD,
*Commanding Mitchell's Station:*

Is it certain that the enemy have replaced infantry pickets by cavalry? Telegraph fully and any further news.

JOHN NEWTON,
*Major-General.*

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MITCHELL'S, *February* 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. KINGSBURY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Upon inquiry this morning I find that the enemy have again resumed the picketing with infantry as before. All is quiet. Two large fires last night near here; both inside our line. No damage.

S. H. LEONARD,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 26, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that the pickets of the Sixth Corps be relieved immediately by a detail from the Third Corps, and that the duty be executed as quietly as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

P. S.—The Sixth Corps has 850 men on picket.

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 26, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Commanding Sixth Corps:*

Major-General French, commanding Third Corps, has been directed to relieve the pickets of the Sixth Corps immediately.

The major-general commanding directs that you move your corps to-morrow at such time as will enable you to take position on Sunday evening in the vicinity of Madison Court-House. Upon passing Thoroughfare Mountain you will establish a signal station there, and maintain it during the operation. You will take six days' rations and as much forage as you can conveniently carry, three batteries, the usual supply of infantry ammunition (40 rounds per man), some ambulances, some intrenching tools, a few hospital wagons, and such light headquarters wagons as may be necessary.

The object of the movement is to cover and support a cavalry operation in the direction of Charlottesville. Secrecy is essential to its success. The cavalry will follow you to Madison Court-House and pass that place before daylight on Monday morning. If possible, the cavalry will return to Madison Court-House during Tuesday. Upon its joining you, your command will return to its former camp.

Should the enemy move to prevent the operation of the cavalry or to intercept it upon its return in such force and manner as to require you to throw forward support to them, you will do so with a part or the whole of your force, as in your judgment the circumstances render necessary. It is hardly probable that the enemy can use more than 1,500 cavalry and from 8,000 to 10,000 infantry.

General Birney's division will be moved to James City on Sunday, and will communicate with you and support you upon your requiring it. Should you deem it necessary, in pursuance of the foregoing instructions, to move from Madison Court-House and that General Birney's division should move to that point or toward it, you will direct him accordingly.

You will keep the major-general commanding advised of the progress of your march, and of everything that occurs, both by signal telegraph and by courier.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

An extra signal officer will be sent you.

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 26, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you re-enforce General Kilpatrick's division so that he will have available 4,000 officers and men, besides his picket-line (supports excepted) and ordinary camp guards. The re-enforcements should be sent by such routes and at such times (reference being had to the contemplated movement) as will insure their reaching him secretly. An adequate force of cavalry will be assigned by you to General Custer for the purpose of operating in the direction of Charlottesville, in order to facilitate other operations of this army. If he should find it practicable to advance so far as to enable him to destroy the railroad bridge over the Rivanna, in the vicinity of Charlottesville, he will do so, but his movements must be governed by the consideration that the infantry column upon which he can call for support, should the movements of the enemy require it, will halt at Madison Court-House, and that the enemy may be able to throw forward cavalry and infantry to interrupt his progress.

General Custer will be directed to move at such time and manner from the vicinity of Culpeper as will enable him to reach and pass through Madison Court-House unobserved by the enemy.

The cavalry will be supported in its operations by or from the column of General Sedgwick (two divisions of infantry), which will reach Madison Court-House on Sunday afternoon, the 28th instant, and take position there. After having destroyed the railroad bridge across the Rivanna, or after having advanced as far as practicable consistent with the security of his return to within supporting distance of Madison Court-House, General Custer will return with his command to the vicinity of Culpeper. During the operations he will maintain constant communication with Major-General Sedgwick, commanding the column at Madison Court-House, and with these headquarters through the usual channel. In advance of his

approach he will endeavor to break the telegraph line between Gordonsville and Lynchburg, and injure it in such manner as to interrupt communication for several days. The supply of rations and forage and the means of transportation to be taken with the expedition will be governed by the length of time it is to be absent and the rapidity of its movements.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CONFIDENTIAL INSTRUCTIONS. } HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF POTOMAC,
*February* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
*Commanding First Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: On receipt of this you will form two commands, one of 700 men and one of 500 men, each to have its proper complement of officers, good horses, well shod, the men to be thoroughly equipped and supplied with the full allowance of ammunition. The command of 700 men will be directed by you to report to Brigadier-General Kilpatrick by 8 o'clock to-morrow evening, the 27th instant. The commander of the detachment of 500 will report in person at these headquarters by 2 o'clock p. m. to-morrow. This last command to take three days' rations and one day's forage, but will not move from its camp until further orders received through its commander.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—Increase the command to report to these headquarters to 1,000 men, with the proper complement of officers.

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF POTOMAC,
*February* 26, 186

Brigadier-General CUSTER,
*Commanding Expedition, &c.:*

GENERAL: A force of 1,500 cavalry has been assigned to your command for the purpose of operating in the direction of Charlottesville in order to facilitate other movements of the army.

In case you find it practicable you will advance as far as to enable you to destroy the railroad bridge over the Rivanna River near Charlottesville, but your movements must be governed by the consideration that the infantry column intended for your support will halt at Madison Court-House and that the enemy may be able to throw forward cavalry and infantry to interrupt your progress.

You will move your force in such time and manner from the vicinity of Culpeper as will enable you to reach and pass through Madison Court-House unobserved by the enemy. It is expected your command will arrive at Madison Court-House by Sunday evening, the 28th instant, and leave that point by 2 o'clock on Monday morning. The Sixth Corps, Major-General Sedgwick, will take post at Madison Court-House on Sunday afternoon, and is intended to support your operations. After having destroyed the railroad bridge

across the Rivanna, or after having advanced as far as practicable consistent with the security of your return to within supporting distance of Madison Court-House, you will return with your command to the vicinity of Culpeper. You will report to Major-General Sedgwick in passing through Madison Court-House, and will maintain constant communication with him and also with these headquarters. You will send scouts in advance of your command to endeavor to break the telegraph line between Gordonsville and Lynchburg in such manner as to interrupt communication for several days. Three days' subsistence and one day's forage will be sufficient, provided you order a supply to meet you on your return at Madison Court-House.

Very respectfully,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*February* 26, 1864.

Col. P. HUEY,
*Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Division:*

COLONEL: I wish you to form a command of 500 enlisted men to report to-morrow to Major-General Pleasonton at headquarters Cavalry Corps. This command you will make up by detachments from the First Maine, Sixteenth Pennsylvania, and Fourth Pennsylvania. The men must be selected with reference to their horses, and no horses be allowed to go save those that are shod and serviceable. Each trooper will carry three days' rations and one day's forage. The supply of ammunition must be full; the men must not neglect to take their overcoats and blankets. At least 15 commissioned officers must accompany the command and a field officer in charge. Let this command move punctually from your headquarters at 7.30 a. m. to-morrow, and previous to its departure inspect it carefully and permit no unserviceable horses to leave with it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.*

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[FEBRUARY 26, 1864.—For instructions from Pleasonton to Kilpatrick, see p. 183.]

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 26, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: In reply to communication dated Headquarters Cavalry Corps, February 22, 1864, relating to E. A. Paul, the Times correspondent for the Army of the Potomac, I have the honor to state that I was not aware that Mr. Paul had obtained any information from any member of my command since the date of orders prohibiting information being given. The New York Times is not brought

to my division, consequently I have not seen Mr. Paul's letters, and certainly not the letter referred to. No letters have been captured by my command so far as I am aware of. Mr. Paul, I believe, remains at army headquarters; he occasionally visits my headquarters, and I was not aware that he obtained or published any information gained in my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General Volunteers, Commanding Third Division.*

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HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, *February* 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff, Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report everything quiet in my command during the last twenty-four hours. The scouting party under command of Major Crowninshield has returned after scouting the country this side of Goose Creek, passing through Dranesville, Belmont, Farmwell Station, Farmwell, Moran's Cross-Roads, Gum Spring, across Little River pike, through Centreville, to Vienna. No evidence of the enemy was visible this side of Middleburg. Statements of citizens show that Mosby's men dispersed and returned to the gaps on Wednesday last.

A. H. GRIMSHAW,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *February* 26, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 12 noon.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The cavalry scouts sent to Franklin on reconnaissances not yet returned. Captain Harper, commanding a company of State troops in Pendleton County, reports that he had a fight with 200 of Imboden's men at the mouth of Seneca. Repulsed the enemy, killing 6. This party evidently intended to go by way of Seneca and Cheat River to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, at Rowlesburg, but were driven back by Captain Harper, who holds the pass at the mouth of Seneca.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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STATE OF VIRGINIA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
*Wheeling, February* 26, 1864.

[Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY:]

GENERAL: I am in constant receipt of intelligence that there are indications of rebel raids into this region of country; some say by way of Hardy County, others by way of Beverly. There was just this evening the delegate and senator from Preston County in my room with letters from their county informing them that the people, secesh as well as Union, were moving their property across into Pennsylvania to prevent its capture and removal by the rebels.

They are much interested and request that I address you on the subject. Will you be kind enough to say to me what foundation, if any, there is for these rumors, so that I may know to what extent I may go in quieting the fears of the people.

Very respectfully,

A. I. BOREMAN,
*Governor.*

P. S.—I omitted to have the foregoing put in the mail at the proper time.

A. I. B.

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Nothing direct yet from Franklin. I have no doubt the report was exaggerated. Captain Harper, of the Swamp Dragoons, had a fight with 200 of Imboden's men at the mouth of Seneca; killed 6 and drove the balance back. I have no news from Washington.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

The cavalry scout that went toward Franklin not yet returned. Captain Harper, commanding the Swamp Dragoons, had a fight with 200 of Imboden's men at mouth of Seneca, killing 6 of the enemy.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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BALTIMORE, MD., *February* 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: In a conversation with Grant at Nashville, Tenn., on the 12th instant, reference was made to a project of an operation from the Eastern sea-board, to aid, by co-operation, the contemplated movements in Alabama and Georgia. He desired, as I understood him, to have a column of 60,000 men move on Raleigh, by the way of Weldon, and thence to co-operate with the Armies of the Ohio and of the Cumberland. I have thought of the project since, as I had, in fact, often before, while in command in North Carolina and Virginia, and beg leave. respectfully, to present the following plan, which will, I think, meet General Grant's wishes, and also attain some other important objects:

I would respectfully propose that the force be collected in the vicinity of Hampton Roads, in such a way as to excite the least suspicion of its real object; that the artillery and infantry be moved by transports to Fort Powhatan, on the James River, landed at that point and the one opposite, on the north bank of the river, and a portion of the force put to work to intrench those points, so as to be

held against any attacking force, while the remainder be rapidly prepared for marching, the whole cavalry force to move at the same time quickly from Williamsburg to Bottom's Bridge, and make a dash on Richmond. Failing in this, to attack the enemy in rear at Malvern Hill or at Charles City Court-House, whichever place may be their point of concentration to meet our threatened advance in force; and then to cross the James River at Fort Powhatan by means of the steam ferry-boats, to be prepared at that point, and make a dash on Peterburg, the Petersburg and Weldon, and the Petersburg and Lynchburg Railroads. Succeeding or failing in this, to fall back toward Weldon, by the county roads, on the flanks of the main column, which, by this time, should be in full march for Weldon, destroying all bridges in their rear. Arrived at Weldon, to assault the works at once, and failing in this, to settle down into a determined attack, opening the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad for supplies from Norfolk, and calling up the North Carolina force from Plymouth to act on the rear of the enemy at Weldon. After taking Weldon, to destroy the bridges at that place and at Gaston, and to sweep through the State threatening Goldsborough and Raleigh, and really only occupying Raleigh with the cavalry, while the main column moves directly for Wilmington as rapidly as possible, living on the country. All the railroad and other bridges are to be destroyed on the march. Reaching Wilmington, to attack that town in such a way as to succeed, opening at the same time a landing for a base of supplies at Masonborough Inlet. Capturing Wilmington, all the defenses on the river and at its mouth are sure to fall in succession. This line of advance on Wilmington is the only one that offers decided chances for success, inasmuch as it entirely cuts off all re-enforcements from Virginia, and, if the cavalry succeeds in cutting the Wilmington and Manchester road, from Charleston also. It avoids the delays in crossing the White Oak and New Rivers of a column moving from Morehead City; at the same time it shuts off the troops that might, in the mean time, be poured into Wilmington by the two railroads mentioned above.

The reasons that I prefer the route by the way of the James River to that by the line of the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad to Weldon are that it avoids the delays consequent upon forcing the passage of the Blackwater, the Nottoway, and the Meherrin Rivers, and of rebuilding the bridges over those streams, which the enemy will be sure to burn to retard the march of our forces, and that the route by Fort Powhatan and Prince George Court-House to Weldon turns those rivers is likely to insure the capture of the troops stationed along them to defend their crossings and the salvation of the bridges; also, that this way of coming down on Weldon cuts off the re-enforcements from Virginia, which might otherwise be thrown into Weldon by rail.

The reason that the main column should be hurried directly through North Carolina without waiting to occupy Raleigh in force is that it saves precious time in getting at Wilmington. At the same time the direct route lies nearer the bases of supply in North Carolina, viz, Plymouth, Washington, and New Berne.

The strength of the expedition should be fully equal to that estimated by General Grant, viz, 60,000 men, to insure the success of the movement, which covers a very long march, and must of necessity involve some severe fighting, entailing considerable losses from deaths, wounds, sickness, and straggling.

I am confident that such an expedition of the above strength can succeed in all the points that I have described above, provided it be conducted with proper skill and determination.

A lesser force could not make sure of Weldon, upon the attainment of which everything depends. It could, however, operate up the James River, as a large water boyau, fortifying point after point in succession, and at last lay siege to Petersburg with good chances of success. Such a move would be important in view of the effect it would produce on the enemy at Richmond and on the Rapidan, but otherwise of very little value.

The above is respectfully submitted with the hope that it may meet the approval of the General-in-Chief.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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EASTVILLE, *February* 26, 1864.

Lieut. H. T. SCHROEDER,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Three refugees have just crossed the bay from Mathews County, Va. They state that two companies of disbanded rebel cavalry are now on furlough in Mathews and King and Queen Counties conscripting all citizens, and that many refugees are now hiding in the woods trying to cross to our lines. I would respectfully request permission from the general commanding to take 100 cavalry from the forces on the Eastern Shore, land at Piankatank or East River, and capture the rebel cavalry. The refugees offer themselves as guides. If a transport and one company of infantry can be sent from the fort I can start at once.

FRANK J. WHITE,
*Major and Provost-Marshal.*

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FEBRUARY 27, 1864.

Major-General NEWTON, *Commanding First Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you hold your corps ready to-morrow morning, the 28th instant, and after until further orders, to move at short notice with three days' rations in haversacks. Great vigilance will be enjoined on the picket-lines.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

NOTE.—Birney already ordered.

(Same to General French, commanding Third Corps; General Warren, commanding Second Corps, and General Pleasonton, commanding Cavalry Corps, for General Merritt.)

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MITCHELL'S, *February* 27, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KINGSBURY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My pickets are 1 mile beyond Mitchell's Station, in an open field. The woods are about one-fourth mile in front of them. Our right connects with the cavalry near Bald Pate Mountain. On our left the cavalry extends beyond us some 200 yards in front.

S. H. LEONARD,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 27, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that the First Division of the Third Corps be held ready to move early to-morrow morning, the 28th instant, with five days' rations, two batteries of artillery, as much forage as can be conveniently carried, not exceeding five days', a few ambulances and hospital wagons, and the light wagons of headquarters, and some intrenching tools. The men will carry the 40 rounds of ammunition prescribed. Instructions for the movement of the division will be sent to-night.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 27, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 2.20 p. m.)

Major-General FRENCH,
*Commanding Third Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that Major-General Birney move with his division early to-morrow morning, the 28th instant, and take position that evening in the vicinity of James City. He will communicate with Major-General Sedgwick, commanding Sixth Corps, which is ordered to take post at Madison Court-House on the evening of the 28th instant, and will co-operate with and support that corps, upon being required to do so by its commanding general. General Sedgwick may find it necessary to move forward from Madison Court-House to cover the operations of a cavalry force in the direction of Charlottesville, in which case he will communicate with General Birney and require him to move toward, or to, or beyond Madison Court-House. A signal officer will be posted by General Sedgwick upon Thoroughfare Mountain, through whom he will communicate with these headquarters by signal from Madison Court-House. Should the signal officer require additional protection, General Birney will furnish it. He will communicate everything of importance that occurs to these headquarters through the usual channel, using both signal and courier. Upon being notified by General Sedgwick that the objects of the expedition have been accomplished, General Birney will return to his present camp. The usual picket-line will be maintained during the absence of this division. You will communicate a copy of these instructions to General Birney for his guidance.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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FEBRUARY 27, 1864.

Major-General SYKES,
*Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that all the available force of your corps be held ready early to-morrow morning to be thrown to the front at brief notice, including a proper proportion of artil-

lery. Colonel Devereux will be directed to send cars from Alexandria to the different points on the road to bring up the troops in the event of their being required. These troops will be held in readiness until further orders. They will keep three days' rations in the haversacks. Some ambulances, hospital wagons, and light headquarters wagons and intrenching tools will be held ready to accompany them, with not less than three days' forage. A light supply train, with about four days' rations and forage, will be held ready to follow. You will likewise hold in view the contingency of the remainder of the corps being brought to the front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

P. S.—Probably all of your First Division, excepting a guard at Bealeton, and a part of your Second and Third Divisions might be held ready with a view to leaving guards at Bealeton, Warrenton Junction, the large bridges, and the sidings, and leaving pickets and patrols on the line of the road. The troops, with the exceptions noted, might be concentrated at points of embarkation after the order for the cars had been given in time to take them upon their arrival.

A. A. H.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 27, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that General Gregg be held ready to move up to Brandy Station, leaving (if required) his camps early on the morning of the 29th instant, with all his available force. He should be prepared to leave small camp guards and a guard sufficient to hold the depot at Warrenton. As there is no probability, under existing circumstances, that the enemy can bring any force of magnitude against his camps and Warrenton, the force he leaves need not much exceed 500 men.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

Kilpatrick can easily handle Hampton without assistance. If, however, the general desires to send over to assist him, it would be better to let Merritt go with the remainder of his command, after Custer returns. Gregg's force would be too small to effect much, leaving guards at depot, &c. This position is important. I don't think Kilpatrick cares about it, from my conversations with him. He can tell better as the prospects develop.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: The persons accompanying this (John and A. Berry) state that there are a number of men concealed in the Blue Ridge near Sperryville, armed and associated for the purpose of resisting the rebel conscription act; also that [there] are a number of horses and a quantity of bacon in Page County, which can be obtained. The major-general commanding directs that you send out a sufficient force with these men as guides to communicate with the party resisting the draft and render them any needful assistance, and if they wish to come within our lines to bring them in. Every effort will be made to capture parties conscripting, and all families that desire to come within our lines will be brought in.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: Five hundred men from the Second Division and 700 from the First Division, with the proper complements of officers, are directed to report to you by 8 o'clock to-night, to fill your division to 4,000 men.

Very respectfully,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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ALEXANDRIA, *February* 27, 1864.
(Received 10 p. m.

Colonel TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: My men have patrolled the country pretty thoroughly to-day; they did not see any guerrillas. We have information that a small party of guerrillas were near Accotink, and also at Mason's Hill, last night.

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *February* 27, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 3 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

Scouts returned from Franklin. The information of Colonel Quirk was incorrect. Nothing there but a strong picket from Jackson's force.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February 27, 1864.*

Lieut. M. J. RUSSELL,
*A. A. A. G., Second Div., Dept. of West Virginia:*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the following statement of David Bowman, a conscript and deserter from the rebel army. He arrived here this morning from Dayton, 4 miles west of Harrisonburg, Va., which place he left on last Sunday, 21st instant. He reports General Early, with a force of about 3,000 or 4,000 infantry, at Taylor's Springs, 5 miles east of Harrisonburg. He states that he (Bowman) was informed by one of General Rosser's command that there were between 200 and 300 desertions from the rebel army during General Early's late raid in this part of the country. He also states that General Rosser with a battalion of cavalry is now near Augusta, Va., encamped at Mount Meridian; he reports Imboden at or near Lexington, Va., with a force of about 800, composed of cavalry, mounted infantry, infantry, and six pieces of artillery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MARTIN WALLACE,
*Capt. and Actg. Provost-Marshal, 2d Div., Dept. of W. Va.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*New Creek, W. Va., February 28, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded for the general commanding's information.
JAS. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

Deserter from Lomax's brigade, this side Staunton, came in during the night. Says Rosser's command most all on furlough. Imboden was in Rockbridge. Horses of all commands scanty and in poor condition. Gilmor is out on scout. Small dismounted parties foraging through the country. Heard of no movement in any direction. I reckon that the force at Franklin is a strong picket posted in apprehension of an advance of us.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February 28, 1864.*

Major-General WARREN,
*Commanding Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Kilpatrick will move to-night, cross the Rapidan at the lower fords, and turning the enemy's right flank operate in his rear. He will be absent several days. He will withdraw all the supports and reserves of his picket-line, but will leave his pickets.

The inclosed telegram,* just received, showing a brigade o. enemy's cavalry at Morton's Ford, will require more than usual vigilance on the part of your infantry brigade near there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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ROBERTSON RIVER, *February* 28, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I arrived here at 12 m. and sent forward a brigade and battery, which are now in Madison Court-House. Cavalry pickets were seen on the river bank when we approached, but made no resistance. About 20 cavalrymen were in the town of Madison Court-House, but left as our advance entered. I do not hear of any infantry in the vicinity of the town. I will remain here. One brigade and battery in the town; the rest of the corps on the river bank until further developments. I sent signal officer to Thoroughfare Mountain, but it has been too hazy to open communication. I am building a bridge over the river to use in case of a sudden rise. Birney is at James City.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 28, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that the right of General Merritt's picket and patrol line be thrown forward toward the Robertson and Rapidan Rivers, so that General Sedgwick and General Birney will have cavalry in their front, to give warning of any approach of the enemy from the upper Rapidan and Robertson. This cavalry force will be increased, if necessary, for the effectual performance of the duty.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY RESERVE BRIGADE,
*Camp near Mitchell's Station, February* 28, 1864.

Capt. G. B. SANFORD,
*A. A. A. G., Hdqrs. First Cav. Div., Culpeper, Va.:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that when this brigade was ordered to take position at or near this point on the 26th of December last that I was informed that there was to be a division of infantry to hold this point in conjunction with the cavalry. Two small brigades were on the spot when I arrived, one of which has since been withdrawn, and the other, I am informed, is about 2,000 strong. It is encamped about 1½ miles to my front, mostly near the station. As

* Not found.

long as the roads were heavy or impassable for artillery and cavalry or the weather too inclement for a movement, I have felt able to maintain myself at this point against heavy odds, but now that the roads are good, the creeks and streams at low stages of water, and the country generally traversible by all arms, I think that my position is too exposed for a small cavalry force, and that if I am expected to maintain my present position a strong force of infantry with artillery should be sent to assist me. I do not wish to be understood as wishing to move back. I desire particularly to remain where I am and allow the command to enjoy while they can the winter huts that have cost them hard labor to construct. But I do not think that the force now in this vicinity, within cannon-shot of the enemy's lines, is strong enough to even delay a sharp and well-supported attack. There are, I am informed by citizens living in the neighborhood, wood roads, known to few, but passable, by which by a sharp dash of cavalry the left flank of this position could be turned, driving in our pickets in front of them. The four pieces of artillery attached to this brigade are all that are available to the command for the fords from Raccoon up to Cedar Run Mountain. At this present time, with 1,500 of my picked men out, my whole available force is not over 500 men, chiefly dismounted or mounted on unserviceable horses.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED GIBBS,

*Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Reserve Brigade.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY RESERVE BRIGADE,
*February* 28, 1864.

Capt. GEORGE B. SANFORD,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cav. Div.:*

CAPTAIN: In view of the prospect for active service by this command, I have the honor to call the attention of the commanding general to the number of dismounted men in this brigade, and the urgent necessity which exists for supplying them with horses. Reports have been sent to division headquarters each day for over a month exhibiting the condition of this command with reference to this particular, but as no action that I am aware of has been taken to remedy this evil, I am induced to make it the subject of a special communication. The memorandum report of last evening shows an aggregate of 344 dismounted men in the brigade, together with 155 unserviceable horses, thus leaving about 500 men totally unfit for mounted service. This condition of affairs demands immediate action, as in the event of a sudden move the command would be taken at great disadvantage, as these men would be compelled to operate on foot, and the limited facilities for transportation now at my disposal would scarcely accommodate so large a number of useless horse equipments. I have thought that the departure of veteran volunteers and regulars upon furlough would leave a sufficient number of animals to mount the remainder of the brigade, but in that event the number of surplus horse equipments would prove a great incumbrance, and upon the return of these veterans they will then, as now, require horses. In view of these circumstances, I have the honor to request that speedy measures be taken to obviate the diffi-

culties herein set forth by disposing of these horse equipments until the return of the re-enlisted veterans, and by securing horses for them so that no delay will be experienced in remounting them as soon as they come back.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel First New York Dragoons, Commanding Brigade.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 28, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: At 10 p. m. yesterday Colonel McChesney dispatched a communication to the effect that he expects an attack within a day or two, and that soon there would be a grand attack upon our forces in North Carolina. He asks for re-enforcements. While there is no reserve force, I have sent him one Connecticut regiment, and hope he will be able to hold all our interests. His informant is Hon. Mr. Satterthwaite, one of the leading men in North Carolina, of whom I have made mention to you. He has plantations near Washington, N. C., and is one of Governor Vance's friends.

In haste, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 28, 1864.*

Commodore DAVENPORT,
*U. S. Navy:*

COMMODORE: A concurrence of testimony indicates that this position is about to incur a formidable attack. Dispatches from the military commander at Washington are to the effect that he has information of a meditated attack upon that place within a few days, which will probably be preliminary to that upon New Berne. Major-General Peck directs me to request you, if there are not already two gun-boats in the vicinity of Washington and if the demands elsewhere are not such as to prevent, that another boat may be sent to a position off Washington for a short time. It is the general's impression that there are already two there.

I remain, commodore, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 28, 1864.*

General I. N. PALMER,
*Commanding Post and Defenses of New Berne:*

GENERAL: Major-General Peck directs that nine companies of the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers proceed at once to Washington, N. C., to report to Colonel McChesney, commanding Sub-district

of the Pamlico, taking with them their camp equipage and a supply of ammunition, and so far as practicable in condition for immediate active service. Necessary transportation will be furnished by the quartermaster's department.

Labor upon the new work upon the Neuse River this side of Fort Stevenson and upon the new line on the south side of the Trent will be at once resumed by fatigue parties and pressed with all possible dispatch. The commanding general further directs that steps be at once taken under your direction to complete the system of obstructions in the Neuse River above the town.

He also directs that you at once proceed to organize all enrolled white men and all colored men within the limits of your command into military companies as a component part of the forces for the defense of this place. Proper officers must either be appointed by you or selected by the companies, who shall be reponsible for the instruction and discipline of the companies and such arms and equipments as shall be issued to them. A place of rendezvous will be designated to which, at the moment of alarm, these companies will repair, thence to be marched to such position as you may assign them, it not being considered necessary that more than 50 men should be left as a provost guard within the town. With a view to the execution of these measures the chief provost-marshal, Captain Denny, and the superintendent of negro affairs, Captain James, will be directed to report to you for orders.

Considerations of military necessity as well as humanity demand that all contrabands now living outside of your lines be at once withdrawn within the defenses and assigned some location selected with reference equally to the general health and the defense of the town. As in case of attack these people must suffer materially, it is deemed advisable to send so many of these people as can be, exclusive of those in the service of the military department, to the colony at Roanoke Island. The materials of their houses will be taken with them, the quartermaster's department furnishing transportation. The general regrets to learn indirectly that the Third New York Cavalry, about 500 strong, are not in a condition for active service in the field. If necessary equipage has remained behind at Fort Monroe details should be immediately dispatched to bring it here.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 28, 1864.

Col. J. M. MCCHESNEY,
*Commanding Sub-district of the Pamlico:*

COLONEL: Major-General Peck has received your private communication of February 27, 10 p. m.

Orders have been issued for the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers to report to you, although it is difficult to spare any from the defenses of New Berne, and particularly as indications favor the supposition that any attack that may be made upon Washington will be in the nature of a feint to divert attention from a serious attack upon New Berne. That the enemy is contemplating such an attack is the concurrent testimony from various and reliable sources.

If you have time it will be well to throw up a small battery on the crest in the rear of Fort Washington. Your attention is called to the necessity of sufficient supplies and particularly of intrenching tools and axes, some of which should be in each work.

The general believes that there is now a second gun-boat below the town near Hill's Point.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*New Berne, February* 28, 1864.

Colonel JOURDAN,
*Morehead City:*

General Peck has information which leads him to apprehend an attack on some part of the lines, probably within a day or two. He wishes you to suspend military duty at Newport and put every man on fatigue duty, as that is the key to our railroad line. Fatigue parties must be employed night and day cutting down timber, blocking up approaches, and strengthening the defenses generally. Say to Colonel Ripley that there must not be any surrender of the works at Newport under any circumstances.

JAS. D. OUTWATER,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 28, 1864.

Colonel JOURDAN,
*Morehead City:*

General Peck wishes you to organize immediately into companies all the whites and blacks in your district, especially at Beaufort, Morehead, and Newport, as you must rely on them as a component part of your force for the defenses of your line. Appoint rendezvous, so these men will know where to procure arms, &c.

JAS. D. OUTWATER,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 28, 1864.

General H. W. WESSELLS,
*Commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle:*

GENERAL: Your advices to the commanding general with regard to a meditated attack and the preparation of iron-clad boats at Halifax and Kinston have been confirmed from various and reliable sources. The indications are that a feint will be made at Washington, N. C., with a view to direct attention and troops in that direction, and that the grand attack will then be made upon New Berne. By this arrangement, with Kinston as a base, the enemy can suddenly throw their forces from Washington against New Berne, a plan

which will give them advantages over any combined movement upon Plymouth. You are now so strongly fortified and have the co-operation of so large a naval force that at this time the general apprehends nothing more than a demonstration against you.

It may be necessary to call upon you for one of your smallest regiments, say the Sixteenth Connecticut, and you will therefore have them in readiness to move either to Washington or New Berne at the shortest notice. It is not the general's intention to call away any troops if it can be avoided, and this direction is given you only as preparatory to a contingency that may arise.

Your attention is called to the necessity of providing for water within the works, and a supply of rations and intrenching tools. If there is any deficiency in these last respects they can be obtained here. The negroes on Roanoke Island should be prepared to resist a boat raid against the island in case of attack.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUB-DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, *February* 28, 1864.

Colonel RIPLEY:

An attack on our lines is expected by Major-General Peck within a day or two. Suspend all military duty except that which is intended for defensive purposes. Make every man work night and day from the moment you receive this dispatch. Newport must be held at all hazards. I will send you the section of howitzers to-night, under command of Lieutenant Tully. Keep your cavalry on the alert to obtain information. Leave nothing undone to enable you to make a splendid defense. Look well to the condition of your arms and ammunition, as well as to the quantity. Telegraph to the Ordnance Department for what you want. Request Lieutenant Pearce to send it to you at once. Keep me informed of all matters of importance.

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
*February* 28, 1864.

Colonel RIPLEY,
*Newport Barracks:*

General Peck directs that you, through your provost-marshal, immediately organize all male citizens, white and black, to assist you in the expected attack. You will immediately order the commanding officer at Croatan to blockade the three roads leading from the railroad between Croatan and the 7-mile post, in the direction of Evans' Mills. Send citizens with tools, under the charge of a non-commissioned officer, to assist in the work at once. I have telegraphed to General Peck for a locomotive and cars. When they arrive at Newport use them for what is absolutely necessary and then send them to me. Use every man within the limits of your command.

J. JOURDAN,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 29, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 11.30 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

A cavalry expedition left last evening with the intention of attempting to carry Richmond by a *coup de main*, General Kilpatrick in command. If successful, expects to be there by to-morrow p. m., March 1, and may the next day be in the vicinity of General Butler's outposts and pickets. Will you please notify that officer, that his advanced posts may be warned?

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

(Transmitted to General Butler February 29.)

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WASHINGTON, *February* 29, 1864—3. p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Your telegram has been forwarded to General Butler. No further information from East Tennessee of Longstreet's retreat, but it is thought there that he will rejoin Lee.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *February* 29, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, *Army of the Potomac:*

No change in the enemy's position in our front. The enemy seems to be unaware of the move, as they are all very quiet. Some of their regiments have been drilling to-day.

WIGGINS,
*Lieutenant and Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
*Robertson River, February* 29, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Custer, with his command, moved forward at 2 o'clock this morning. The enemy, it appears, have no infantry on this side of the Rapidan, and very little if any cavalry. I have sent another brigade across the river. The weather continues so hazy as to prevent signal communication. General Custer informs me that if he does not return by Wednesday morning it will be because he is cut off and compelled to seek another route, and that it will not be necessary for my command to remain here longer than Wednesday morning. Does the general commanding desire that I shall remain beyond that time if Custer does not return and I do not hear from him?

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 29, 1864—12.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

Your duplicate dispatches of 8 o'clock this morning received. If General Custer does not return during Wednesday morning the commanding general still desires you to remain until directed to return. You will keep him advised as often as practicable on Wednesday, so that, if necessary, instructions may be sent you.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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THOROUGHFARE MOUNTAIN,
*February* 29, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

Firing in the direction of Gordonsville, a long distance off. Nothing from Custer.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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THOROUGHFARE MOUNTAIN,
*February* 29, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

The firing ceased at 3 p. m. Nothing from Custer yet.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 29, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON:

General Meade directs me to say that Cline left Spotsylvania Court-House at 2 o'clock last night. Colonel Dahlgren was then there, and the rear of General Kilpatrick's column was 2 miles beyond Chancellorsville. No alarm yet given. A negro direct from Guiney's Station reported Hampton's division there, with orders to keep together for fear of an attack from below Richmond. General Kilpatrick was well assured of success.

SHARPE,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*February* 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
*Commanding Engineer Brigade, Washington, D. C.:*

SIR: You will please make a detailed report of the bridge material on hand, enumerating the portion now ready for the field, also that which may be rendered so within two weeks. You will also cause

to be constructed as soon as practicable an advance guard train of the following description :

Twenty-four canvas pontoons, without Birago trestles. One hundred and ninety-two balks, white pine, 21 feet by 4½ inches by 4½ inches; in other respects similar to those used with the French train. Five hundred chesses, 11 feet by 12 inches by 1½ inches. Each pontoon-wagon to be loaded with one boat, anchor, cable, oars, &c., and 8 balks. Each chess-wagon loaded with 42 chesses. The wagons to be as light as possible, consistent with strength. The cordage to be the same as the present canvas train, with the addition of the necessary balk lashings.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT, ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 96. } *Washington, February* 29, 1864.

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47. Brig. Gen. A. P. Howe, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the artillery depot and the charge of the office of inspector of artillery in this city, relieving Brig. Gen. W F. Barry, U. S. Volunteers.

General Barry, on being relieved, will report in person, without delay, for duty, to Major-General Grant, U. S. Army, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi.

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By order of the Secretary of War :

W. A. NICHOLS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
*February* 29, 1864—9.25 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Washington :*

I have the honor to report all quiet. A party of five of Mosby's men were seen this morning near Chichester Mills. A scouting party, consisting of 200 men, under command of Major Nicholson, Sixteenth New York Cavalry, was sent out at 2 p. m. to-day to scour the country from Annandale to the Occoquan, by Wolf Run Shoals; thence, between Bull Run battle-field and Centreville, to Gum Spring, Frying Pan, and around Dranesville. It is supposed from information received that a considerable force of the enemy's cavalry is in our vicinity. Three parties of dismounted men, two of 50 and one of 75 men, will go out to-night to operate by ambuscade in the region through which it is believed the enemy will be compelled to pass.

A. H. GRIMSHAW,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

ALEXANDRIA, *February* 29, 1864—10.20 p.m.

Colonel TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: It is reported that Mosby and 5 men are inside the lines beyond Falls Church. Two companies of cavalry from Vienna are in pursuit, and all my men are out to intercept him, if possible.

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 80. } *Washington, February* 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Franz Sigel, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the Department of West Virginia.

By order of the President:

W. A. NICHOLS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 29, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 6.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

Dispatch received.* I will advance to New Kent Court-House 2,000 infantry, a battery, and 1,000 cavalry, under an experienced officer, starting on the evening of March 1, to reach New Kent at 3 p. m. Wednesday, to aid in case of disaster, to receive prisoners, or to cover retreat. Is this approved?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *February* 29, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

Act as you deem best under the circumstances. The telegram sent to you was the first notice received here of General Kilpatrick's movements.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *February* 29, 1864
(Received 9.40 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

Flag-of-truce boat is in. Our defeat in Florida is confirmed by official dispatch. General Bragg is appointed to Commander-in-Chief of the Confederate Army. They claim a repulse of Grant from Tunnel Hill after severe fighting, and that all expectation of a general engagement is over.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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*Meade to Halleck, same date, p. 615.

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle, Plymouth:*

GENERAL: I have reliable information that the taking of Roanoke Island is a part of the plan ordered to be executed at Richmond. The Confederates expect to open the Neuse and perhaps the Roanoke with the rams, and in that event secure the island. Should no rams get by us a boat expedition will be organized for the island. Your security is in at once enrolling in companies all the blacks, appointing officers, and arming them as I am doing here with whites and blacks. If you need arms you can get of the ordnance officer here a sufficient number.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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*ITINERARY OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.**

CAVALRY CORPS.

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt.*

During the month the division was encamped in the vicinity of Culpeper Court-House, engaged in picketing from below Raccoon Ford, on the Rapidan River, to the vicinity of Hazel River.

*February 6 and 7.*—The division made a reconnaissance to Barnett's Ford, on the Rapidan River, engaging the enemy and skirmished with them, resulting in the loss of Capt. J. P. Ash, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, and 2 men of the First U. S. Cavalry and 5 men of the Fifth U. S. Cavalry wounded, and 4 men wounded and 3 killed of the Eighth New York Cavalry. One thousand seven hundred men from the division were detailed and sent on special service, under command of Generals Kilpatrick and Custer, and have not yet returned.

*Second Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Thomas C. Devin, Sixth New York Cavalry.*

*February 1 to 29.*—Picketed the James City and Madison Court-House roads and Sperryville pike.

*February 24.*—The Sixth New York Volunteer Cavalry returned from furlough.

*February 26.*—The Ninth New York Volunteer Cavalry returned from furlough.

*February 28.*—The brigade was ordered on a reconnaissance.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. David McM. Gregg.*

*February 1 and 2.*—Quiet; headquarters division at Warrenton; headquarters First Brigade at Warrenton; headquarters Second Brigade between Warrenton and Warrenton Junction.

*February 3 and 4.*—Quiet; Colonel Taylor commanding division; Colonel Stedman, Sixth Ohio, commanding First Brigade; Colonel Smith, First Maine, commanding Second Brigade.

*February 5.*—Quiet; some prisoners brought in; scout sent to Amissville; Major Thaxter, First Maine, commanding.

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* From returns of the commands indicated for February, 1864.

*February 7 and* 8.—Quiet; commission convened in Colonel Huey's case.

*February* 9.—Quiet; Capt. Charles Treichel appointed provost-marshal of division.

*February* 10.—Quiet; Colonel Taylor turned command over to Colonel Smith; Colonel Gardner, First Pennsylvania, commanding First Brigade; some of Mosby's men captured.

*February* 12.—Quiet; General Gregg resumed command of division; scout sent to Amissville.

*February* 13.—Quiet; scout sent to Hartwood.

*February* 14.—Quiet; New Hampshire Battalion left for State.

*February* 15.—Quiet; reported movements of enemy's infantry on our right; scout sent from First and Second Brigades to Gaines' Cross-Roads and Little Washington.

*February* 16.—Quiet; brigade drill.

*February* 17.—Quiet; deserter came in with important information; Lieutenant-Colonel Kester, First New Jersey, ordered out with detachments of division to Salem, Piedmont, Markham, &c.

*February* 18.—Quiet; scout returned bringing 28 of Mosby's band.

*February* 19.—Quiet; Dr. W. W. L. Phillips reported for duty from sick leave.

*February* 20.—Quiet; brigade drill.

*February* 21 *and* 22.—Quiet.

*February* 23.—Review of division by General Gregg.

*February* 24 *to* 26.—Quiet; Third Pennsylvania ordered to report to the provost-marshal-general, Army of the Potomac.

*February* 27.—Detachment from the First Brigade, 500 strong, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stedman, Sixth Ohio, with three days' rations, ordered to report to General Custer, and 500 men, under Major Taylor, First Maine, ordered to report to General Kilpatrick for special duty.

*February* 28.—Received orders to march on 29th, 3 a. m.; headquarters and 469 men from Second Brigade marched to Stevensburg to occupy lines left by General Kilpatrick.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. John P. Taylor, First Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

The brigade has been encamped during the month in the immediate vicinity of Warrenton, Va., doing picket duty and scouting the surrounding country.

*February* 17.—A scouting party under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Kester, First New Jersey Cavalry, succeeded in capturing 28 of Mosby's men, 50 horses, &c., near Piedmont and Paris, Va.; nothing further of importance to record.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. J. Irvin Gregg, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

FIRST MAINE.

Duties of the present month much the same as in January—principally picket, scouting, and escort duty.

*February* 4.—Major Thaxter, with 150 men, went on a reconnaissance to vicinity of Piedmont, capturing 8 prisoners and several horses.

*February* 10.—Major Thaxter, with 100 men, went on a scout to Haymarket and vicinity. Three times this month 100 men have relieved a like detail on Morrisville road for three days' picket; 1 commissioned officer and 34 enlisted men on daily picket.

*February* 28.—Major Taylor, with 300 men, went on expedition.

*February* 29.—Colonel Smith, with 84 men, also went out. Neither party has reported; 43 recruits received and 35 re-enlisted present month.

TENTH NEW YORK.

Encamped between Warrenton and Warrenton Junction, doing picket duty, &c. There have been no casualties during this month.

SIXTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA.

Camp at Turkey Run; 1st, 9th, 18th, 27th, details of 100 men on three days' tour of picket on Morrisville road.

*February* 27.—Every available mounted man ordered out on an expedition, the object and result of which is as yet unknown.

THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA.

*February* 10.—Changed regimental headquarters; ordered on detached service to relieve Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry at Bristoe Station, on duty with Second and Third Divisions, Fifth Army Corps.

*February* 14.—An escort from regiment, under Lieut. P. S. Early, was attacked by guerrillas concealed in woods near Brentsville, Va.; we had 2 men killed and 4 wounded.

EIGHTH PENNSYLVANIA.

*February* 16.—Companies C, M, and F, under command of Maj. J. W. Wistar, went on a scout toward Amissville; returned same day.

*February* 28.—Regiment ordered out; left camp at 12 p. m.; marched to Stevensburg, reaching there at 8 a. m., and went into camp.

FOURTH PENNSYLVANIA.

Regiment has been engaged in no actions; in many scouts of minor importance.

*February* 11.—Marched from Bristoe Station to headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry Corps, near Warrenton; distance, 20 miles.

SECOND PENNSYLVANIA.

*February* 1 *to* 29.—In camp near Warrenton.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick.*

The command is doing picket duty from Stringfellow's house, on the right, to Culpeper Ford, on the Rapidan; thence across the Neck to Kemper's Dam, on the Rappahannock.

*February* 6.—A portion of the command crossed the Rapidan at Culpeper Ford; captured 12 of the enemy's pickets and returned to camp February 7.

*February* 28.—In the evening the division crossed Ely's Ford, on the Rapidan, capturing the picket-post at that point; arrived at Spotsylvania Court-House at 10 a. m.

*February* 29.—At Beaver Dam Station at 1 p. m.; burned the depot and store-house and all public property at that place; went into camp near the South Anna at 9 p. m.

*First Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry E. Davies, jr.*

The command is doing picket duty on the extreme left and front of the army, stretching from Colonel Humphrey's house, on the Rapidan, across the Neck to Kemper's Dam, on the Rappahannock.

*February* 6.—The command marched across Culpeper Ford, on the Rapidan, to Culpeper Mine, capturing 10 of the enemy's pickets.

*February* 7.—Returned to camp.

*February* 28.—The available force of the command started on an expedition under General Kilpatrick south of the Rapidan; crossed, at 1 a. m. February 29, at Ely's Ford; marched all night, arriving at Chancellorsville at 5 a. m., at Spotsylvania Court-House at 11 a. m., at Beaver Dam at 4 p. m.; broke up the railroad, destroyed the telegraph, burned depot, store-house, and all public property there; had a slight skirmish with some of the enemy's infantry, driving them back; crossed the North Anna at 6 p. m., and went into camp near South Anna at 9 p. m.

*Cavalry Reserve Brigade, commanded by Col. Alfred Gibbs, First New York Dragoons.*

The brigade has remained in winter quarters, performing the usual picket, guard, and fatigue duties.

*February* 6 *and* 7.—It participated in the reconnaissance made to Barnett's Ford by Brigadier-General Merritt with the First Cavalry Division. The First United States, Second United States, and Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with a detachment of 150 men from the First New York Dragoons, now absent upon special service under Brigadier-General Kilpatrick, commanding Third Cavalry Division. No reports could be received from these regiments, and they are consequently dropped as temporarily transferred from the brigade and will be taken up again on their return.

FIRST ARMY CORPS.

*February* 6.—The troops of this corps marched to Raccoon Ford, Rapidan River. Pickets were established and the troops bivouacked for the night; received orders to return to camp at dusk of the 7th instant.

*Artillery Brigade, commanded by Col. Charles S. Wainwright, First New York Light Artillery.*

*February* 7.—Battery B, Fourth U. S. Artillery; L, First New York Artillery, and A, First Maryland Volunteer Artillery, moved toward Raccoon Ford, on the Rapidan, pursuant to orders from corps headquarters. L and A were detached from the rest of the corps and took position between Raccoon and Morton's Fords, this side of the Rapidan. The two batteries expended about 60 rounds of ammunition without eliciting a reply from the enemy.

*February* 8.—They returned to the main body of the corps, went

into park for the most of the day, and returned to the old camp near Culpeper. B, Fourth U. S. Artillery, after the other batteries left, remained in park until the return to camp. Distance marched, 24 miles, including the advance and return.

*First Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. William W. Robinson, Seventh Wisconsin Infantry.*

*February* 6.—Left camp at 8 a. m. and moved to a point near Raccoon Ford, on the Rapidan, where the brigade went into camp. After dark that night the colonel commanding, with 300 men taken from the several regiments, moved to the ford and burned the village located there. Returned to camp without loss, but few shots being fired, and remained there until 4 p. m. of the 7th, when the troops marched for their recent camp near Culpeper, where they arrived that night.

*February* 26.—The Seventh Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers returned from Wisconsin.

*February* 28.—The Sixth Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers returned from their State.

*Second Brigade, First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. James C. Rice.*

*February* 6.—The command moved on a reconnaissance to near Raccoon Ford and returned on the evening of the 7th instant.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John C. Robinson.*

*February* 6.—Made a reconnaissance to Raccoon Ford, on the Rapidan River.

*February* 7.—Returned to our old quarters, where we still remain.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Samuel H. Leonard, Thirteenth Massachusetts Infantry.*

The brigade has been performing outpost duty at Mitchell's Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, during the month of February.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John R. Kenly.*

*February* 5.—Received marching orders to move at 3 a. m. of the 6th instant.

*February* 6.—Marched about 7 a. m. toward the Rapidan River and halted within a mile of Raccoon Ford. Pickets were established and the division bivouacked for the night.

*February* 7.—All quiet; orders received at dusk to return to camp.

*First Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Edmund L. Dana, One hundred and forty-third Pennsylvania Infantry.*

*February* 5.—Received marching orders to march at 3 a. m. on the morning of the 6th.

*February* 6.—Marched about 7 a. m. toward the Rapidan and halted within a mile of Raccoon Ford. Pickets were established and the brigade bivouacked for the night.

*February* 7.—All quiet; received orders at dusk to return to camp. The brigade is now doing picket duty and having daily drills.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

In camp at Cole's Hill, Culpeper County.

*February* 6.—Moved at 7 a. m. to the Rapidan, Brigadier-General Caldwell temporarily commanding. At Morton's Ford crossed Third Division, Brig. Gen. Alexander Hays commanding, which took position on the south bank. Major-General Warren resumed command at 4 p. m.; severe skirmishing and shelling from the enemy's batteries for an hour after dark. The Second Division, Brigadier-General Webb commanding, relieved Third Division, and was itself withdrawn during the night.

*February* 7.—In position on the north bank until 6 p. m., when the corps returned to camp. Total loss, 255 killed, wounded, and missing.*

*February* 29.—In camp at Cole's Hill.

During the month the following organizations were furloughed in a body as veteran volunteers: Nineteenth Massachusetts, Seventh West Virginia, Companies D, E, I, and K, Eighty-first Pennsylvania, and Companies E and G, Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers. The following organizations returned from veteran furlough during the month: Companies A, B, C, D, F, G, and H, Sixty-first New York; Companies A and B, Sixty-ninth New York; Eighty-eighth New York, Fifty-third Pennsylvania, Seventh Michigan, Fifty-ninth New York, and First Delaware Volunteers.

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John C. Caldwell.*

*February* 6.—In the morning the command, in accordance with orders from corps headquarters, marched from camp near Stevensburg, Va., in the direction of Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan River, arriving there about 12 m. The command was put in line, one brigade supporting Ricketts' battery until 6 p. m. of February 7, when, the movement having proved successful, the command returned to camp.

*First Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. H. Boyd McKeen, Eighty-first Pennsylvania Infantry.*

*February* 6.—At 7 a. m. the brigade marched from its camp near Stevensburg, Va., to Morton's Ford, arriving there at 1 p. m. During the afternoon of this day the Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers were deployed as skirmishers under command of Lieut. Col. K. O. Broady, of the Sixty-first New York Volunteers, and skirmished about 1½ miles to the left of the Second Army Corps, on this side of the river, meeting no enemy.

*February* 7.—The brigade supported a section of Ricketts' battery, and returned to its old camp soon after dark, where it remained up to this date.

*Third Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Paul Frank, Fifty-second New York Infantry.*

*February* 6.—This command, in conjunction with the division and corps, and in pursuance of instructions from division headquarters, marched from camp with three days' rations in the direction of Mor-

*See table, p. 118.

ton's Ford, on the Rapidan River, reaching there about 12 m.; remained there in line until about 6 p. m. of February 7, when it was understood the corps accomplished the object of the reconnaissance; returned to camp. No further movements during the month.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. R. Penn Smith, Seventy-first Pennsylvania Infantry.*

The brigade has been encamped during the month near Stevensburg, Va.

*February 5 and 6.*—Made a reconnaissance, crossing the Rapidan at Morton's Ford. It lost no men in the movement, not being engaged in action.

*Third Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Turner G. Morehead, One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Infantry.*

*February 6.*—Marched to Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan River.
*February 7.*—Returned to camp near Stevensburg, Va.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alexander Hays.*

*February 6.*—The division moved from camp at daylight to Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan River; at 11.30 crossed the river, capturing the enemy's pickets; skirmished heavily with the enemy during the day; recrossed the river same night.

*February 7.*—Remained in position on north bank of the river until evening, when the command returned to its present camp.

*February 9.*—First Battalion, Seventh Regiment West Virginia Volunteers, left camp on furlough, having re-enlisted for the war.

*February 12.*—First Regiment Delaware Veteran Volunteers returned from furlough.

*First Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Samuel S. Carroll, Eighth Ohio Infantry.*

*February 6.*—Left camp at 7 a. m.; marched to Morton's Ford; crossed the river at 12.30 a. m., wading waist deep, going to the support of the Third Brigade of this division; skirmishers of brigade only engaged the enemy; recrossed at 10 p. m.; bivouacked near the ford until 7 p. m. of the 7th, when we returned to camp.

*Second Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Thomas A. Smyth, First Delaware Infantry.*

*February 6.*—The command crossed the Rapidan at 1 p. m. on a reconnaissance, in conjunction with the rest of the division, and became engaged with the enemy. At midnight the command recrossed the river and bivouacked.

*February 7.*—Remained under arms at Morton's Ford until dark, when the brigade returned to its former camp, the Fourteenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers having been left to hold the ford.

*February 12.*—The First Regiment Delaware Veteran Volunteers rejoined the command from furlough.

*Third Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Augustus Funk, Thirty-ninth New York Infantry.*

*February* 6.—Pursuant to orders from corps headquarters the brigade moved at 7 a. m. in the direction of Morton's Ford, with three days' rations and 40 rounds of ammunition. Three hundred picked men of this command first crossed the ford at 10 o'clock in the face of the enemy, who filled the rifle-pits on the opposite bank, from which they were driven, leaving in our hands as prisoners 27 men and 2 officers. A number of small-arms were also captured. Having discovered the enemy to be in force, the Third and Second Divisions of this corps recrossed the river at 12.30 that night and returned to camp on the 7th instant.

THIRD ARMY CORPS.

*First Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. David B. Birney.*

*February* 1 *to* 6.—The division lay in its winter quarters, about 2½ miles from Culpeper, Va., on Rixey's farm.

*February* 6.—In the evening the division, leaving baggage, &c., in camp, marched towards Raccoon Ford, encamping near Pony Mountain for the night.

*February* 7—Marched about 2 miles nearer the ford, and at about 5 p. m. returned under orders to its winter quarters; lay in camp until the 28th.

*February* 28.—In the morning marched with five days' rations to James City, encamping there and communicating with the Sixth Corps, lying near Madison Court-House. Lay in bivouack at James City until March 2, when it returned to its former quarters.

*Third Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Thomas W. Egan, Fortieth New York Infantry.*

*February* 6.—In obedience to orders, this brigade was marched to the vicinity of the Rapidan River and held as a support to the Second Corps.

*February* 7.—Returned to our old camp in the afternoon and evening.

*February* 29.—Marched to James City, and went into camp as a reserve to the Sixth Corps.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry Prince.*

*February* 6.—Division marched to the vicinity of Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan, passing through Stevensburg to support the Second Corps; no casualties.

*February* 7.—Returned to camp.

Nothing of importance occurred during the month.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. William Blaisdell, Eleventh Massachusetts Infantry.*

*February* 1.—Brigade in camp near Brandy Station.

*February* 6.—Received orders to move at 7 a. m.; moved at 3 p. m., marching through Stevensburg, encamping for the night about 3 miles beyond.

*February 7.*—Received orders to return to camp, which was reached at dusk.

Nothing further has occurred in this brigade worthy of note during the month.

*Third Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. William J. Sewell, Fifth New Jersey Infantry.*

Remained in camp near Brandy Station, Va., participating in the reconnaissance to the Rapidan on the 6th and 7th.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Carr.*

*February 6.*—Received orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice. At 4 p. m. had orders to march; moved off in the direction of Culpeper Court-House, where the division arrived at dark, and continued the march until 9 p. m.; halted and bivouacked for the night about 4 miles south of Culpeper.

*February 7.*—At 7 a. m. resumed the march in the direction of Mitchell's Station, in the vicinity of which the division arrived at 10 a. m. and halted; remained until sunset, when orders came to return to camp, where the division arrived at 11 p. m.

*Third Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Benjamin F. Smith, One hundred and twenty-sixth Ohio Infantry.*

*February 6.*—Received orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice. About 4 p. m. had orders to march; moved off in the direction of Culpeper Court-House, where the brigade arrived at dark, and continued the march until 9 p. m.; halted and bivouacked for the night about 4 miles south of Culpeper Court-House.

*February 7.*—At 7 a. m. resumed the march in the direction of Mitchell's Station, in the vicinity of which the brigade arrived at 10 a. m.; halted and remained until sunset, when orders came to return to camp, where the brigade arrived at 11 p. m., since which time the brigade has remained in camp doing picket duty regularly.

No change in headquarters or camps of brigade since last return.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph J. Bartlett.*

*February 1 to 29.*—In camp near Rappahannock Station, Va., performing the usual camp and picket duties.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS.

*February 28.*—Moved to James City, Va., from camp at Welford's Ford.

*February 29.*—Marched to Madison Court-House, Va., to support cavalry expedition of Brigadier-General Custer.

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. David A. Russell.*

*February 27.*—This division moved from Welford's Ford, where it had been encamped since last report; advanced to James City; the following day moved from James City to Robertson River and placed in position in front of Madison Court-House. This position was held up to and including the 29th instant.

*First Brigade, First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred T. A. Torbert.*

*February* 27.—Remained in camp near Welford's Ford up to this date; broke camp in the morning and marched via Culpeper Court-House to James City, a distance of 12 miles, and bivouacked for the night.

*February* 28.—Left camp at 7 a. m., taking the advance of the corps, and crossed Robertson River at Russell's Ford, the cavalry of the enemy falling back before us. Occupied Madison Court-House at 4.30 p. m., the brigade being in position on different sides of the town, and picketing the roads to Orange Court-House, Gordonsville, and Charlottesville.

*Second Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Emory Upton, One hundred and twenty-first New York Infantry.*

*February* 27.—In camp near Welford's Ford until this morning, when, leaving a guard in each camp, the brigade moved with the corps through Culpeper Court-House to James City, and bivouacked for the night.

*February* 28.—Marched to Robertson River, 2 miles from Madison Court-House; again bivouacked until the 29th.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry L. Eustis.*

*February* 27.—Marched to James City.

*February* 28.—Marched to Robertson River, near Madison Court-House, where the command remained until the end of the month.

*Third Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Daniel D. Bidwell, Forty-ninth New York Infantry.*

*February* 27.—Broke camp and marched to James City.

*February* 28.—Broke camp at daybreak and marched to Robertson River, near Madison Court-House, where we remained encamped to the end of the month.

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HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
*Robertson River, March* 1, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: General Custer has just come in with his entire command. I will withdraw the brigades from the other side of the river to-night, and will start for my old camp to-morrow in accordance with my first orders. The river is rising rapidly, and it would not be safe to leave those brigades on the other side to-night.

Very respectfully,

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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ALEXANDRIA, VA., *March* 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The usual patrols have been sent out to-day. The party sent to Dumfries last evening returned this forenoon, having captured

1 rebel officer, 1 noted smuggler, 3 horses, 1 saber, and a Springfield musket. It is reported that Colonel Greene's wagon train was fired on this afternoon near Burke's Station by guerrillas. The information is very indefinite; but I cannot ascertain that any damage was done. I shall send a scout out.

Respectfully,

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 1, 1864.
(Received 10.45 a. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following dispatch from General Crook is transmitted for the information of the General-in-Chief:

CHARLESTON, W. VA., *February* 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY:

My scouts have returned from Boone and Logan Counties. They report that all rebels have left that country. They killed several guerrillas and brought in a few prisoners. Deserters from the rebel army and refugees are coming in here daily.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., March* 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. WILSON,
*In Charge of Cavalry Bureau, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 25th ultimo with reference to horses. I think that 2,000 will be all that I shall require, but I would prefer that they should be delivered here instead of at Wheeling, and that they should be inspected by a cavalry officer of my command; also, if practicable, that at least 1,000 should be delivered as soon as the 15th instant or before.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 2, 1864.

Maj. T. M. VINCENT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that the total number of re-enlistments in this army up to and including the 29th ultimo were 25,826.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 2, 1864.

The following regulations respecting the granting of passes within the lines of this army are published for the government of all concerned:

Commanding officers of regiments are authorized to grant passes within the limits of the brigade, commanding officers of brigades are authorized to grant passes within the limits of the division, and commanding officers of divisions are authorized to grant passes within the limits of the corps, to which they are severally attached. Corps commanders are authorized to grant passes beyond the limits of their corps. Every such pass must state distinctly the purpose for which it is given.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. F. BARSTOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 2, 1864—9 p. m.

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the exigency requiring your command to be held ready to move at short notice has passed away.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

(To corps commanders.)

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HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS, *March* 2, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the return of my command to its former camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN SEDGWICK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 2, 1864.

Captain PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: Direct General Merritt to send 500 men to relieve General Gregg at Stevensburg as soon as Custer's command comes in. Notify General Gregg when relieved to return as soon as practicable to Warrenton.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 2, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

General Merritt will draw in his pickets and patrols to their former lines.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 2, 1864—4 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

Who commands the cavalry of Gregg's division ordered to Stevensburg? Major Dake, at Stevensburg, reports that a scout states that the enemy are crossing at Germanna Ford. A force should be ordered to ascertain this at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 2, 1864.

General GREGG,
*Stevensburg:*

Major Dake, commanding Third Cavalry Division, says the enemy are crossing at Germanna Ford. The major-general commanding directs that you ascertain at once whether it is infantry or cavalry and in what force.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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STEVENSBURG, *March* 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff:*

The last report I had from the party was to the effect that it could not be ascertained that any of the enemy had crossed the river. My party is still out. The officer commanding Third Cavalry Division only learns of two men having come over near Germanna at about 12 o'clock last night.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 2, 1864.

Captain PARSONS:

I have investigated the cause of the alarm last night, and found it to have arisen from the vedettes firing on a patrol which the enemy had established on taking away the cavalry pickets opposite Colonel Humphrey's house. Two scouts are reported to have crossed at the same time.

C. P. DAKE,
*Major, Commanding Third Cavalry Division.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 2, 1864.
(Received 2.46 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

The following dispatch from Colonel Mulligan is transmitted for information of the General-in-Chief:

NEW CREEK, W. VA., *March* 2, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN:

Fourteen deserters and conscripts, armed, have come in from the neighborhood of Staunton. They report that on the 20th of last month 110 deserters and conscripts left Mount Solon, in Augusta County, armed, and resolved to fight their way through to our lines.

J. A. MULLIGAN,
*Colonel.*

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 2, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: Just as I left Norfolk on my way to the Baltimore boat I was informed that the Fawn had been obliged to return, owing to the appearance of guerrillas on the canal. If the Flora Temple is required to clear them out, telegraph to Lieut. R. Dale Benson, acting assistant adjutant-general to General Graham, and he will send her.

Respectfully, yours,

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General MEADE, *Army of the Potomac:*

General Schofield was at Morristown on the night of March 1. General Grant says, "Longstreet seems to be going into Virginia."

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 3, 1864—noon. (Received 12.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *General-in-Chief:*

Telegram in regard to Longstreet received. An intelligent deserter, a captain, who recently came over, said it was not expected in Lee's army that Longstreet would rejoin him, as Johnston could not do without him. This has hitherto been my impression, but whether he does or does not join Lee, the latter undoubtedly expects some re-enforcements, although this captain averred that the plan was to hold on to the Rapidan as long as possible and fall back to the fortifications of Richmond when compelled so to do. It undoubtedly is our policy to strike as soon as possible, but it is absolutely essential this army shall be reorganized before moving. I will accordingly go to Washington to-morrow, and I trust something definite on this point can be arranged. Nothing heard from Kilpatrick. I am anxiously awaiting advices via Fort Monroe.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 3, 1864.

I. Article 1, paragraph IV, of General Orders, No. 11, of February 11, 1863,* from these headquarters, is so far amended as to read as follows:

Such sales shall not at any one time exceed the quantity necessary to sustain the applicant and the members of his family, including servants, five days.

Article 2, paragraph IV, of the same order will read as follows:

Issues to destitute citizens may be made under the same restrictions, upon returns approved by the provost-marshal-general of this army, such issues to be of the parts and amounts of the ration established by General Orders, No. 30, War Department, January 25, 1864, as hereafter to be issued to adult refugees and adult colored persons, commonly called contrabands, &c.

II. The privileges granted by General Orders, No. 11, within referred to and modified as above, will not be allowed to any person, or the family of any person, remaining in the service of a disloyal master.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. F. BARSTOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 3, 1864. (Received 12.10 p. m.)

Major-General PLEASONTON:

The major-general commanding directs that General Custer make a reconnaissance to-morrow morning to ascertain whether the enemy are holding Ely's Ford in any force, and, if so, whether with infantry or artillery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 3, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The following dispatch just received. The major-general commanding considers that Colonel Thorp should take command at Stevensburg, or hold his command ready to support Major Dake, commanding cavalry detachment Third Division:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, *March* 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Colonel Thorp came while I was at headquarters, and reported that he was at Stevensburg with 500 cavalry from Merritt's division, and had no instructions and did not know what to do. He relieved the cavalry that was there to-day, but received no directions from its commander. I will forward any instructions you send.

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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See Vol. XXV, Part II, p. 67.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March 3, 1864.*

His Excellency A. I. BOREMAN,
*Governor of West Virginia, Wheeling, W. Va.:*

SIR: In response to your communication of the 26th ultimo, requesting any information in my possession relating to a rumored raid by the enemy into West Virginia, I have the honor to state that I have no knowledge of any such movement having been inaugurated, or, indeed, actually projected, but at the same time I am satisfied from the reports of deserters and information obtained through citizens that assurances have been given to the rebel soldiery by officers, and especially to that portion formerly residents of West Virginia, that a movement, and a formidable one, will at an early day be made toward their former homes, and this expectation prevails almost universally among the soldiers of the rebel army now more directly threatening our border.

This is not conclusive evidence, but furnishes a pretty fair indication as to the rebel plans. I am of opinion that a concerted, aggressive movement will be made or attempted by the enemy in the coming spring, the exact time to be governed by the weather and the military operations in other sections, but I do not think that any such movement is now on foot.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. 18TH ARMY CORPS, DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
*Fortress Monroe, March 3, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

GENERAL: I beg leave to communicate for your information the following inclosures from General Peck. If his information is correct, and he thinks it reliable, it is very evident that I should have more troops here. I have none that I can safely send him with security to my present lines. It would be desirable to have a large force to operate in North Carolina.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 29, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: In several communications I have called attention to the wide-spread disaffection in North Carolina toward the Confederate Government, and especially in respect to Davis and Company. In August last Mr. Davis found it necessary to withdraw some 30,000 North Carolina troops with their arms to distant parts of their territory, and replace them by the soldiers of Georgia, Virginia, Mississippi, and other States, in order to prevent North Carolina from abandoning the rotten Confederacy. The presence of these

hated troops and the want of arms alone accounts for the State's present connection with the bogus government. Unfortunately, just in proportion as the public sentiment was ripening and maturing for a hearty co-operation with the Federal Union, the land and naval forces of the latter were by the exigencies of the service so reduced as to place all on the defensive, and thus checked for a long time the Union movement, discouraging and disheartening our friends. For some months our forces of both arms have been far below the average since the occupation. The disaffection is again on the increase; the Standard has been suspended and many prominent gentlemen have been arrested.

The leading secessionists asked Mr. Davis to send a large force into the State to check the counter revolution and recover Eastern North Carolina. General Pickett made a move for that purpose, and the rebel organs claim that he secured great results. He has been ordered to recover the whole of the State, including Roanoke Island, and is busy organizing a land and naval force with that object. His headquarters are now at Goldsborough, where he has two brigades. He has three brigades at Kinston, with two regiments of cavalry some 13 miles this side of that place. The land forces that he can concentrate in a few hours are from 25,000 to 30,000 and upward.

He is now removing the blockade and obstructions some 6 miles below Kinston for the purpose of bringing the ram and boat flotilla to this city. The rams in the Roanoke are expected to be in a condition to co-operate. The one at Kinston is virtually complete, and on the first flood will come down. They are so confident of success in the Neuse that General Pickett will not delay for the one at Halifax. In view of the condition of the State and of the formidable preparations making for the recovery of what we hold, I think it very unfortunate that the Government does not send sufficient force to decide quickly the destiny of North Carolina.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Two of our cavalry taken prisoners have just arrived from Goldsborough. They were confined a number of days at Kinston. General Pickett is at Goldsborough with two brigades, organizing his grand expedition. He has three at Kinston. Our men were at the obstructions and saw the removing of them for the naval brigade, gunboat, &c. The rebels confident of success. Have pontoon bridges, &c. An immediate advance is confidently looked for by them. Two intelligent and worthy Union men have just arrived from the Government car-shops at Graham. At Goldsborough General Pickett had two brigades and three at Kinston. They saw thirteen new pontoons of oak, of large size, which had just been completed for General Pickett. Had an interview with the leading lawyer and man of Goldsborough, who is Union. He told

them to tell the general here that in March we would be attacked by a formidable army and navy for the purpose of recovering everything. The rams were nearly ready and would prove very troublesome to us.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March* 3, 1864.

Col. D. W. WARDROP,
*Ninety-ninth New York Volunteers:*

COLONEL: In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 63, paragraph V, of this date, you will proceed by the Thomas Collyer to-night, with as little delay as possible, with your regiment (Ninety-ninth New York Volunteers) to Roanoke Island. You will upon arriving assume command, and at the first opportunity notify General Wessells of your arrival, dispatching to him the duplicate herewith furnished you of these instructions. Your duties will be particularly to guard against and resist any demonstrations against the island on the part of the enemy, either by boat, raid, or otherwise. The ordnance officer has been directed to send 300 stand of arms for distribution to such able-bodied blacks as you may find it necessary to arm for purposes of defense. Your regiment will probably be relieved by another in a few days. You will report directly to these headquarters by every opportunity that offers, and also to General Wessells. General Peck dictates this letter.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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PENNSYLVANIA EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
*Harrisburg, Pa., March* 4, 1864.

To the PRESIDENT:

SIR: In May, 1861, the Legislature of Pennsylvania directed fifteen regiments to be raised, paid, subsisted, and instructed by the State, to be called the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, and to form a division, consisting of two brigades, with one major-general and two brigadier-generals. This division was enlisted for three years, and sworn into the service of the State in the months of June and July, 1861, and was to be turned over to the United States whenever it should be called for.

The corps was accordingly raised without delay. Prior to the first battle of Bull Run two of its regiments, at the request of United States officers, had been sent to the vicinity of Cumberland, and were in active service for nearly two months; two others were sent to Western Virginia on similar requests. After the battle of Bull Run the whole division was wanted by the United States, and under your requisition was turned over to the service of the United States. They entered Washington, or joined Generals Banks and Dix at Baltimore four days after that battle. They numbered about 15,000 men, well armed, trained, and disciplined, and having already an esprit de corps which increased their efficiency. They have since served with distinction through the Peninsular and all

the other campaigns of the Army of the Potomac. They are proud of their corps and of their State, and the State is proud of them. Two of the regiments, it is believed, were not mustered into the service of the United States, their being turned over by the State being considered sufficient without a new muster. These two regiments have served you as faithfully and efficiently as any troops you have.

Last December I urged that this corps be sent home to be recruited. It has so much the esteem of our people that if my wish had then been complied with you would now have it in the field with nearly all the veterans re-enlisted and with the corps recruited to its maximum of 15,000 men. Unfortunately, my request was refused. The three years for which the men enlisted count from the date of their entry into the service of the State. They are now told, I understand, that they will be held for three years from the date of their being mustered into the service of the United States. The United States may thus gain a few days, or even a month's service, at the expense of creating dissatisfaction and losing the men for a new period of three years.

Agents from other States are allowed or encouraged to go among the men and try to tempt them into the service of their States. By this means a few men are obtained at the expense of great injustice to Pennsylvania, and the great body of them are disgusted and prevented from re-entering the service at all. Neither the government or people of this State have ever resorted to this mode of obtaining men. Pennsylvania has answered all the calls of the United States with her own men and from her own resources.

One brigade has been for some time, against all remonstrances, separated from the corps, and regiments from it are now being sent to different departments. By this means the espirit de corps is effectually broken, and the pride of the division crushed. In all these modes the spirit of this body of men is being destroyed, and the end of it will be, unless proper measures be promptly taken, that you will drive the greater part of these veterans from the service. In all military services it has been held important to encourage the pride of the men in the organizations to which they are attached and in the localities from whence they came, and to rely greatly for recruiting on the pride which the inhabitants of such localities feel in the organizations which they have formed.

Measures are being taken in this State to preserve the history of our regiments. They have already been presented with standards by the State, and provisions made for preserving the worn and tattered banners as they come from the field. The citizens in every part of the State feel proud of their regiments, and the men in the field are encouraged by this system. To have belonged to a particular regiment and to have the exploits of that regiment recorded is the only mode in which private soldiers can have the opportunity of being appreciated at home. All these necessary and appropriate means of retaining your veterans and filling their thinned ranks with new volunteers you are allowing to be thrown away.

I again most earnestly call your attention to the subject, and beg to make the following suggestions, namely:

First. That the brigade that has been separated from the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps be immediately returned to it, with the understanding that hereafter the whole division will be allowed to serve together, unless when some military reason to the contrary shall exist.

Second. That all the men of that corps, or of any other Pennsylvania regiments, who shall re-enlist, shall remain in the regiments to which they now belong, and be credited to Pennsylvania on account of her quota.

Third. That the term of service of the veterans in the Pennsylvania Reserves be estimated from the date of their being originally sworn into the service of the State.

These suggestions are believed to meet the approbation of General Crawford, the present commander of the corps. A copy of this letter will be sent to General Meade, who was long connected with the Pennsylvania Reserves and can speak with knowledge on the subject.

I observe, in conclusion, that what I now ask for the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps will, if granted, form no precedents, as there is in the army no other body of men similarly situated. In granting my request you will therefore incur no risk of future inconvenience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. CURTIN.

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NASHVILLE, TENN., *March* 4, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 2.40 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

I will leave Louisville on Monday for Washington.

U. S. GRANT,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief:*

SIR: I beg leave to submit for your consideration and that of the honorable Secretary of War the following plan for the reorganization of the Army of the Potomac:

I propose to reduce the number of corps, now five, to three. In doing this I propose to retain the Second, Fifth, and Sixth Corps, reducing the three divisions now in each to two divisions. I then propose to consolidate the two divisions of the Third Corps (constituting the old corps) into one division and transfer it temporarily to the Fifth Corps; this division to retain its corps badges and other distinctive marks, and having understood that when the accession of recruits shall justify the organization of another corps, this division shall resume its position as the Third Corps with such additions as can be made.

In the same manner I propose to consolidate the First Corps into a division, and, with its distinctive marks, &c., assign it to the Second Corps. This would leave the Third Division of the Third Corps, which did not belong to the original corps, but joined after Gettysburg, under Major-General French, which I propose to transfer to the Sixth Corps.

The Second and Sixth Corps, being now commanded by officers assigned by the President of the United States, will continue to be so commanded. The Fifth Corps I propose to have commanded by Major-General Warren, by the assignment of the President.

Of the two corps temporarily broken up, I propose to assign the officers of the general staff to vacancies that may exist in the other corps.

After the above general organization is decided on, general officers will be assigned to divisions and brigades on consultation with corps commanders. The present temporary commanders of the First, Third, and Fifth Corps, it is understood, the Department has decided to relieve. A list of general officers whom in my judgment it is expedient to relieve is herewith furnished, viz: Brig. Gen. J. R. Kenly, Brig. Gen. F. B. Spinola, Brig. Gen. Sol. Meredith.

I should be glad, if this organization is decided upon, that those general officers belonging to the Army of the Potomac and now absent on detached duty be ordered to rejoin, as well as such forces as may have been detached for special purposes.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding Army of the Potomac.*

[Indorsements.]

MARCH 5, 1864.

Approved, and respectfully recommended to the Secretary of War.

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

Approved.

E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 4, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 11.20 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Washington, D. C.:*

The scouts sent out have returned. They brought with them the scout sent to cut the telegraph. On Sunday night at 11 o'clock he disconnected the wires at Frederick's Hall Station. Next day at 10 a. m. he saw Dahlgren come in there. The telegraph station was destroyed, road torn up, and other damage done, but the artillery, distant 500 yards, was not seen, and was not disturbed. The scout saw a very large fire in the vicinity of Hanover Junction Monday at 3 p. m., and in the evening a larger one lower down. On his way back the scout was taken prisoner by the rebels, who told him they had been beaten at Hanover Junction and the bridge there destroyed. The rebel soldiers also reported that Kilpatrick had struck the Central train on its way to Gordonsville, and had taken General Lee a prisoner. The scout escaped near Chancellorsville. Hampton is in pursuit of Kilpatrick with 1,800 men. The scout reports large forces of infantry about Chancellorsville, and all roads very closely picketed and the river patrolled by infantry. The old man has a letter from his daughter showing that Rosser was then near Staunton. The reconnaissance sent out this morning not heard from yet. The following dispatch just received from Kilpatrick.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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*Of March 3. See p. 182.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 4, 1864. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
*Washington, D. C.:*

The following dispatch from General Custer just received:

STEVENSBURG, VA., *March* 4, 1864—5 p. m.

Colonel SMITH,
*Chief of Staff:*

I have just returned from a reconnaissance to Ely's Ford. But a small cavalry picket of the enemy was discovered on the opposite bank, which fled in the direction of Fredericksburg. One hundred and fifty of my men crossed the river and scoured the country, but failed to discover the enemy.

G. A. CUSTER,
*Brigadier-General.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, March* 4, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
*Harrisburg:*

When will you be able to join your command in the field? An immediate answer is requested.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

---

BOSTON, *March* 4, 1864.
(Received 9.20 a. m., 5th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

I consider myself able to take the field when ordered. It is proper for me to state that my wound is not yet healed, but I am willing to take any risk. I also should add that I have an engagement to speak at Tammany Hall on Monday night at war meeting in connection with recruiting matters, the importance of which is considered great by those in charge of it. You, knowing these facts, will be best able to determine my movements. If I have not answered the dispatch to the point it is because of its generality.

W. S. HANCOCK,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 4, 1864—12 noon.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK:

Your telegram to General Pleasonton received. You will proceed with your command to Yorktown and draw your supplies from Fort Monroe, awaiting at Yorktown further orders. You will ascertain and report what facilities there are at Fort Monroe for ferrying your command across York River and subsequently at Urbanna. You will also report the total number of men, animals, guns, caissons, and other vehicles with your command.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 4, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps Headquarters:*

COLONEL: I respectfully call attention of the major-general commanding to the immense amount of duty now being performed by the men and horses of this division. If it continues much longer there will scarcely be a man or horse fit for duty in the division. In the Reserve Brigade the available command is on picket duty and guarding the signal station at Cedar Mountain each alternate day. It occupies nearly the entire day to relieve the line, and thus the horses are saddled a greater part of the time. The recent march that the greater part of this brigade performed, together with the extra continual picket duty that the remainder left in camp was on (the line being doubled by order), has greatly reduced the horses of the command. If there had not been so many and such positive orders in regard to the guard at the signal station, I would respectfully suggest that it be relieved for the present, as its presence for picket duty would help much. I would say in explanation that the "daily memoranda" of men for instant and active duty includes the bands and pioneer parties, which are not for detail on picket.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 4, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of major-general commanding, and would respectfully suggest that the guard at the signal station be relieved for the present with infantry.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION, *March* 4, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

COLONEL: On the 28th of February, and when all the available force of this division was under orders to move to Stevensburg, I received an order to send a force for certain purposes to Page County. To-day I had conversation with the two citizens, and find that to accomplish fully what is desired will require a greater force than I can raise without very great injury to my command. All the horses out recently require recuperation, and this is difficult because of the very small quantity of hay furnished. To collect the families about Luray that wish to come within our lines to escape the effects of conscription would require a command sent to remain in the vicinity of Luray for a day at least, and the return movement would have to be slow. For this reason I would think it necessary to send at least 800 men. I would ask, therefore, that I may be authorized to delay sending this force until such time as it can be done with less injury to the effectiveness of my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. Second Division.*

GETTY'S STATION, *March* 4, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Since telegraphing for the men of the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts I have received reliable information that Pickett or some other general is supporting Jordan at Suffolk with a large force. Ransom is in force at South Mills. Do not think under the circumstances an attack by me advisable. Will hold my present position. Have ordered the Twenty-seventh to bivouac here for the night. Think I shall need them.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Nine contrabands have just come from Kenansville and Warsaw, where they were raised. They report troops passing to Wilmington from Virginia on three days in large numbers. The soldiers said they were going to advance from Wilmington on New Berne. Well posted and intelligent and honest. As something was said about the Sound roads, I infer that they were to cut the railway, &c.

Refugees of character came in yesterday, confirming the preparation for an early attack upon New Berne; 7,000 are reported at Greenville, and Colonel McChesney has advices of troops on both sides of Tar River.

A gentleman reports 8,000 at Weldon from Lee's army, destination not known. He says the current and prevailing idea is that 40,000 men will advance upon Eastern North Carolina. All think that Lee's army is scattered and that he has but few men. The abandonment of Virginia is talked of very much, the country being exhausted.

General Wessells, on the 2d, reports a considerable increase of the enemy in his front and in Bertie and Hertford Counties. Rumors have reached him of a force in Gates County moving toward the swamp. He reports the army gun-boat Bombshell with a large number of conscripts near Winton, and that a rebel battery was below her and she could not get down the Chowan. Help has been sent and heavy firing was heard during the day. I fear she will not get out. She has been invaluable, and now that the Foster has left we are destitute of light-draught boats.

On hearing of a raid north of the Albemarle, I sent the Ninety-ninth New York to Roanoke Island and more arms for the contrabands. Intimations of a boat attack at night on the island have been made of late, and I cannot risk anything now. Mail-boats from your headquarters via the canal are due. My communications have been sent mainly by the canal.

I am very anxious to hear from you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS, *March* 4, 1864.

Major-General PECK,
*Commanding:*

I pushed my scouts beyond Core Creek last night. No signs of an enemy, and you know 10 miles in front of point of attack will show some signs of preparation, such as fires, advance pickets, &c. A surprise by the foe upon me is morally impossible, and getting past me without getting stopped and somewhat hurt is physically impossible. Besides, I have a pretty reliable party within 3 miles of Kinston, who will make every effort to get to me at least six hours before the advance of the foe. In short, general, you grace two stars. I desire to earn one, and trust that Mr. Rebel will give the chance for earning. If he waits ten days longer he won't cross this front at all. Have sent the negroes to you this a. m.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 5, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Large column of troops, wagon train attached, seen this p. m. opposite Morton's ford, moving up. Seen some distance back from river.

McCLOSKEY.

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CULPEPER, *March* 5, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Lieutenant McCLOSKEY:

At what time did you see the troops you mention, and about how many? Ask Captain Taylor if he saw them and state what they were.

NORTON.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 5, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

I saw them at 5 p. m., about two brigades. Will ask Captain Taylor.

McCLOSKEY.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 5, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Taylor saw them. He thinks about one brigade. Supposed to be relief for pickets. Wagons supposed to be light.

McCLOSKEY.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, *March* 5, 1864—3 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. H. LOCKWOOD:

This morning rebel raiders destroyed the telegraph office at Cherrystone Point. Please report what troops you have nearest that station and where they are, their number and disposition.

E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

BALTIMORE, MD., *March* 5, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 6.40 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

The Eastern Shore counties of Virginia were removed from this department and assigned to that of General Butler two months ago. I learn that there are two companies of cavalry near Cherrystone.

H. H. LOCKWOOD,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, *March* 5, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General LOCKWOOD:

You have not answered my question. I am aware that two counties of the Neck and Saint Mary's were attached to General Butler's command. I asked you what was the nearest force you have to Cherrystone, the description and number. Please answer that question.

E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

---

BALTIMORE, MD., *March* 5, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 11.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

I have one company of cavalry at Newtown, Md., 75 miles from Cherrystone, and three companies of infantry at Salisbury, Md., 100 miles from Cherrystone; telegraph stations at both places. Your former telegram was erroneously communicated, and my reply an exact reply to the message as received.

H. H. LOCKWOOD,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 5, 1864.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
*Commanding off Newport News:*

ADMIRAL: I have news of an attack meditated upon our forces at Suffolk. The rebels have captured our telegraph boat and broken up our telegraph line at the Eastern Shore. With what force can you aid us in the Nansemond? Please reply by telegraph.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

FORT MONROE, *March* 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK:

You will at once march 1,000 of your cavalry to Newport News; boats and forage will meet them there. Transportation for your battery and the balance of your cavalry will be sent to Yorktown.

R. S. DAVIS,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GETTY'S STATION, *March* 5, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

A gun-boat in the Nansemond will be of great service.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

---

GETTY'S STATION, *March* 5, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

If you can furnish me with a map of Suffolk and vicinity it will be of great service. Seven p. m., all quiet in front.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

---

GETTY'S STATION, *March* 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILD:

All quiet in the District of Currituck in the direction of South Mills. The enemy are in Suffolk. My pickets and theirs are facing each other. All quiet.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Commanding, New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I send you inclosed all the information I have about the movements of the enemy.* I am preparing to meet them at Suffolk. If you are right about the 25,000 men in North Carolina the enemy must be not only ubiquitous but more numerous than the sands of the sea. Kilpatrick is just in from his raid, and he swears Pickett's division is at Bottom's Bridge. Heckman insists that it is in front of him, and you think it is in front of you, and he wrote me a letter a few days ago from Petersburg.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March* 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of North Carolina and Virginia:*

GENERAL: Since my letter of yesterday two steamers have arrived from General Wessells and Roanoke, but bring no reports or rumors of any raid north of the Albemarle. However, a raid on our principal line of communication between Virginia and North Carolina should be expected as a preliminary operation to a grand movement on

*Inclosure not found.

either Virginia or North Carolina. In case of an attack on the canal line, I shall look for a speedy advance of the enemy here. The stormy and boisterous character of the ocean navigation in March renders it exceedingly difficult for me to communicate with you and favors the enemy. I am very deficient in vessels for the outside service, as my quartermaster has advised the chief quartermaster at your headquarters.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 25. } HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N. C., March* 5, 1864.

I. The command of Brigadier-General Palmer, hitherto known as the Forces and Defenses of New Berne, will be hereafter designated the Sub-district of New Berne.

II. Col. Simon H. Mix, Third New York Cavalry, is announced as chief of cavalry on the staff of the commanding general.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CONFIDENTIAL.] WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, D. C., March* 6, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Army of the Potomac:*

I forgot to call your attention to the general publicity of matters transpiring at your headquarters, in consequence of the indiscretion of officers who have reporters about them and repeat what is transpiring at the army, or communicated from here even in cipher. I have this evening directed some information from Norfolk and Suffolk to be communicated to you, and for certain reasons the knowledge should be confined to yourself. I am told that your chief of staff insists that everything to you shall go through him. If this be so it cannot be tolerated, and he should be removed. It may often happen that you should know what would not be communicated to him.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 6, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 11 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

Telegram in relation to communications to these headquarters received. You have been misinformed. All telegrams directed to me are delivered to me in person. Those in cipher are usually sent in a sealed envelope, marked "Important." My chief of staff is one of the most particular men in this respect I ever knew, and frequently does not communicate orders to officers, the instructions to others, a knowledge of which might be important. I will take measures to correct any improprieties in this matter that I can detect.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 6, 1864—7 p. m. (Received 10 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. R. INGALLS,
*Chief Q. M., Army of the Potomac, Washington:*

General Kilpatrick telegraphs that the wharf at Urbanna is destroyed, and that troops can be embarked from that point only at high tide, and he proposes crossing at Tappahannock. I have reason to believe the enemy has sent troops toward Fredericksburg with a view of intercepting his return, and I fear if he crosses as high as Tappahannock they will be notified in time to interfere with the movement. Under these circumstances I wish you would ascertain the practicability of bringing him up the Potomac, say as far as Dumfries. If General Meigs has returned, confer with him and the General-in-Chief; also with General Pleasonton, who can send Kilpatrick the necessary order as soon as it is decided which route he shall take in return. He has 3,417 men, 3,595 horses, 6 guns, 8 caissons, 3 wagons, and 4 ambulances.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *March* 6, 1864—1 p. m.

General NEWTON:

Enemy's camps as usual, but three other brigade camps appear untenanted. Pickets seem the same.

WIGGINS and CAMP.

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *March* 6, 1864—2.45 p. m.

General NEWTON and
Captain NORTON:

Sentinels on duty last night report movements of trains nearly all night; also rockets having been sent up from Clark's Mountain. No noise from steam was heard; only rattling of wheels.

WIGGINS and CAMP.

---

CULPEPER, VA., *March* 6 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH:

The commanding officer of pickets on the Sperryville pike reports that a citizen, whose house is in our lines during the day, says that he has information from rebel scouts that Longstreet is moving up the valley with a force of 75,000. I give you the report for what it is worth.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 6, 1864—8.15 p. m.

General MERRITT, *Culpeper Court-House:*

What valley does the citizen refer to in the information concerning Longstreet? And is it 15,000 or 75,000 men he reports under Longstreet?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 6, 1864.
(Received 2.46 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff:*

A cavalry scout, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Root, of the Fifteenth New York Cavalry, has just returned from Hardy and Pendleton Counties. They effectually destroyed all the saltpeter-works near Franklin, in the latter county. Nothing new. Refugees and deserters constantly coming in. General Crook reports the capture of 40 rebels a few days since by his scouts in the Kanawha Valley.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *March* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

Please keep your cavalry scouts active in the region west of Winchester as far as Wardensville. Deserters report small squads of the enemy's cavalry in that neighborhood. The First Virginia Cavalry has been ordered to report to you without delay. Regiment now numbers over 1,000.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. F. KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

Scouting party was sent this morning in the direction indicated. It has been reported by deserters and refugees that the rebel forces in the valley are scattered for subsistence; also, by one, that a party of engineers have been surveying the roads in the upper valley. All quiet.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *March* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Your telegram received. Keep your cavalry scouts active, so as to know at all times if any enemy is near you. Lieutenant-Colonel Root, of the Fifteenth New York Cavalry, returned to-day from a scout of five days in Pendleton County. Found no enemy at Franklin, as reported. Destroyed valuable saltpeter-works in Pendleton County.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 6, 1864.
(Received 5 p. m.)

The PRESIDENT:

We have heard from Dahlgren, Lieutenant-Colonel [Major] Cooke, and about 100 men at King and Queen Court-House. We have sent out to bring them in. This I hear, by telegraph, from General Kilpatrick.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

---

FORT MONROE, *March* 6, 1864.
(Received 3.50 p. m., 7th.)

SECRETARY OF WAR:

General Meigs arrived here to-night. The raid on Cherrystone and the capture of the Titan seem to have no object except that of theft. The Titan has been chased into the Piankatank River, where she is watched by four navy gun-boats.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CHERRYSTONE, VA., *March* 6, 1864.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Maj. THOMAS T. ECKERT,
*Assistant Superintendent Military Telegraph:*

I send this information without authority. For some days the enemy have been massing forces about Suffolk—artillery, infantry, and cavalry. Last night, as I understand, they made an attack and came near getting into Portsmouth and Norfolk. I do not get this from official sources, but think it true.

G. D. SHELDON,
*Manager Fort Monroe Telegraph Office.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, March* 6, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 3d instant, inclosing two from General Peck, dated February 29, is received.

There are no troops which can at present be sent to operate in North Carolina without taking them from the Army of the Potomac. I am unable now to inform you whether or not it is contemplated to send large forces into your department for the spring campaign. Lieutenant-General Grant is expected here by the 10th, when your letter will be submitted for the decision of the Government.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*General-in-Chief.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General BIRNEY,
*Commanding Brigade Colored Troops:*

GENERAL: I have to thank you and the portion of your command that were with you for the prompt assistance rendered by yourself and command in the menace of the Confederates upon Suffolk. The willingness and promptness with which you acted are worthy of all praise. I am only sorry that the exigencies of the service take yourself and your troops out of my command.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 7, 1864.

Col. G. H. SHARPE:

What brigades, besides those of Johnson's division, were reported to have been sent to Chancellorsville and other points to intercept Kilpatrick? I have mislaid the memorandum you sent in about it. Let me see you as soon as you have looked up this information.

Very respectfully, &c.,
A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 7, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Measures are being taken to provide transportation by water for Kilpatrick's command from Yorktown to Alexandria. He cannot move for two or three days. He has forage.

RUFUS INGALLS,
*Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 7, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE:

General Halleck wishes to delay orders about General Kilpatrick until later in the day. General Meigs has not returned. It will be necessary to hear from Fort Monroe before moving General Kilpatrick. In the mean time transportation will be assembled to bring him to Alexandria, if finally decided that he shall come by water. We can have boats enough in sixty hours to bring up 1,000 at a trip. Dumfries is a bad place to land at; it would be better to land at Alexandria.

RUFUS INGALLS,
*Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March 7*, 1864—1.30 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. R. INGALLS,
*Chief Q. M., Army of the Potomac, Washington, D. C.:*

General Halleck's views coincide with mine. I have sent him a Richmond paper of the 5th, with an article referring to the probability of Kilpatrick's returning by the Northern Neck, and calling upon the military authorities to be prepared for him. It would therefore be necessary for me to detach a considerable force to get him by Fredericksburg, and there are special reasons for this being at present inconvenient; hence my judgment for his being brought to Dumfries or Alexandria.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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MARCH 7, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant WIGGINS:

The officer commanding picket reports movements of rebel infantry and cavalry and camps broken up. Have you seen anything of it?

S. H. LEONARD,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

---

MARCH 7, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
*Culpeper Court-House:*

The major-general commanding desires to know the result of the examination by the party sent out to ascertain the truth about the report in relation to Longstreet. Signal officer on Pony Mountain just reports:

Can see light smoke at different points along the foot of the first range of the Blue Ridge on the right and left of the Sperryville pike.

The commanding general directs that you send a reconnaissance immediately to ascertain what force of the enemy is in the vicinity indicated.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

CULPEPER, *March 7*, 1864.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

My command is so much depleted by details sent off on raids, &c., that I have not sufficient men apart from picket to make reconnaissance. The party sent out last night found nothing, but as it did not go as far as intended I ordered a second reconnaissance. Any force that I can now send out is not safe from attack and capture by guerrillas.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March 7*, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
*Comdg. First Division, Cavalry Corps, Culpeper:*

Has the second reconnaissance you sent out returned as yet? How far was it ordered to go? If it goes out far enough there will be no necessity of sending out another force to find out about the smoke seen from Pony Mountain; otherwise, General Meade directs that you send out another force, which he says you must get together out of the force you have.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps.*

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CULPEPER, *March 7*, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff:*

The second reconnaissance has not returned. It was sent out to beyond where the smoke is reported. I am satisfied it will give a full account of the country to the right.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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YORKTOWN, VA., *March 7*, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: Major-General Butler now informs me that he can cross my command at Urbanna. The dock can easily be repaired. I am getting full rations of hay and grain. Command in good condition.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.
*March 7*, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Expedition, &c.:*

GENERAL: As soon as the transportation arrives at Yorktown you will embark your command for Alexandria, and return with it to this army as soon as practicable. As transportation cannot be furnished for more than 1,000 men and horses at one time, you will send them by detachments to Alexandria, and these detachments will march out to the front without awaiting the arrival of others. Let the commanders notify General Ingalls, that forage may be supplied on the road.

Very respectfully,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March 7*, 1864—10 p. m.,
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM, *Chief of Staff:*

Brigadier-General Sullivan reports quite a large rebel cavalry force in Loudoun County. He sent out a scout of 300 of the First New York Veteran Cavalry yesterday into Loudoun, but in consequence of the officer not knowing the country about 20 of the party were captured. The First New York Cavalry and Cole's battalion are now absent on furlough, having re-enlisted, leaving Sullivan without cavalry that is acquainted in Loudoun, Frederick, Clarke, and the neighboring counties. He therefore desires me to ask that Colonel Boyd, of the Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, now at Harrisburg, be ordered to report to him, to remain at least till the return of the First New York or Cole's battalion. Colonel Boyd is thoroughly acquainted in that region.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

(Sent to General Meade.)

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HARPER'S FERRY, *March 7*, 1864. (Received 6 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM, *Chief of Staff, Washington:*

I have reliable information that Mosby gathered his force yesterday for the purpose of making a raid, supposed to be on Warrenton.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

(Sent to General Meade.)

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 7*, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: As one week has elapsed without any dispatches I am somewhat uneasy, and have decided to send mine by the outside. Colonel Wardrop has just arrived from Roanoke Island, but he learned nothing bearing upon the enemy's movements. General Wessells reports a large increase of force of all arms in Bertie and Hertford Counties, where he has two spies. He thinks a boat expedition not improbable. Colonel McChesney, on the 5th, states that all the contrabands agree that there is a large force at Kinston and also at Greenville, and that the obstructions below Kinston are being removed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March 8*, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Major-General Pleasonton directed me to forward you a copy of a dispatch* received from General Kilpatrick while in

*See March 7, p. 652.

Washington. Before this dispatch was received General Pleasonton had made arrangements with General Ingalls to have the command shipped by transports to Alexandria, and he had ordered General Kilpatrick to have his command shipped in that way.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, March* 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
*Commanding Northern Department, Columbus, Ohio:*

SIR: Your communication of the 15th ultimo, calling attention to the peculiar situation of several posts and depots in the Northern Department, subject partially to other department commanders, and requesting information as to the boundary limits and extent of authority in that department, has been received and submitted to the General-in-Chief, who directs me to say in reply that the posts of "Cairo and Jeffersonville have been assigned to department under General Grant, and Alton to General Rosecrans. Existing orders authorize the commanding general of the Department of West Virginia to occupy and protect such points in Ohio west of the river as he may deem necessary for the security of his supplies and operations."

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. A. NICHOLS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 8, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of West Virginia:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 40, dated headquarters Department of West Virginia, Cumberland, Md., March 3, 1864, I proceeded to Martinsburg, W. Va., and inspected the signal party there. I found the party to consist of 4 officers and 14 enlisted men. They are in a good state of efficiency and well supplied with signal apparatus, and prepared to do duty under any circumstances. In addition to the above, I brought with me 30 enlisted men, making our total force 5 officers and 44 enlisted men. Capt. E. A. Denicke, lately in charge, is absent with leave, his leave expiring on the 14th instant. The only stations now being worked are at Martinsburg and Mills' Gap, a position on North Mountain, near Gerrardstown, and about 12 miles from Martinsburg. The station at Mills' Gap is used as a station of observation, to report any movement of an enemy in its vicinity. From it the towns of Bunker Hill, Gerrardstown, Smithfield, and Charlestown can be seen, and also Maryland Heights, near Harper's Ferry; also parts of the roads to Winchester. The back road can be seen in a clear day at a point about 5 miles this side of Winchester, and a hill at Winchester on which the forts are situated can also be seen on a clear day. It is probable that an enemy approaching the railroad

anywhere in the vicinity of Martinsburg would have to go within sight or sound of the Mills' Gap station. By order of General Averell, a picket of 12 men, commanded by a sergeant, is kept to protect that station. From the station at Martinsburg the town of Hedgesville and also Fairview Mountain can be seen, the latter some 3 or 4 miles east of the Potomac. My opinion is that the stations now worked are of sufficient importance to be continued, and although the party is too small to establish stations of observation along the whole line of road until we are considerably re-enforced, as it is the intention of the Bureau of the Signal Corps that we shall be soon, yet our party is large enough to do more than this, and, if approved by the general commanding, I would respectfully recommend the establishment of a similar station near Cumberland. This can be done with our present force. I am not acquainted with the topography of this country, but I judge from consulting a map that a station could be located on the Middle Ridge Mountains, near the town of Springfield, which would command a view of nearly every road by which the enemy could approach the railroad in the vicinity of Cumberland or Green Spring. Such a station would probably require a company or two to protect it from incursions of the enemy. The signal party in this department will be of most service during the movement of troops, and with a moving force I think we could render very good service; but at the present time it appears to me that the foregoing suggestions embody the most service possible with our present force. I find that 10 men of the party are unprovided with horses and equipments. They would be of no service in the field dismounted, but I am informed that requisition for horses for them has been made by Captain Denicke. The general condition of the party is good and their appearance soldierly, and having seen some service already, I doubt not that every officer and man will endeavor by his acts to merit the approval of the general commanding.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANKLIN E. TOWN,
*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of West Virginia.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

You had better order Keeper's battery to Beverly at once. Captain Harrison furnished Keeper with 40 good horses a few days since. I will direct Captain Barringer to have him fully supplied as soon as practicable.

B. F. KELLEY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WHEELING, W. VA., *March* 8, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor herewith to transmit a statement and recommendation in the case of Major Stephens, by Colonel Thoburn, his commanding officer. I have carefully examined the evidence adduced before the Court of Inquiry assembled to investigate the circumstances attending the capture of the forces under command

of Major Stephens, and am of the opinion that his trial by general court-martial would result in his acquittal. In view of the additional evidence in the possession of Colonel Thoburn, I respectfully recommend that Major Stephens be released from arrest and ordered to duty. The colonel is very anxious to have his assistance in recruiting his regiment, and believes that his services would at this time be of great value to the Government.*

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. ADAMS, JR.,
*Acting Judge-Advocate.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST WEST VIRGINIA INFANTRY,
*Wheeling, W. Va., March* 8, 1864.

[Capt. ROBERT ADAMS, Jr.,
*Acting Judge-Advocate:*]

CAPTAIN: I respectfully ask that Maj. E. W. Stephens, of my regiment, now under arrest for alleged neglect of duty at the time of the capture and surprise of his command at Moorefield, September 11, 1863, be honorably released from arrest and returned to duty, for the following reasons:

I am in possession of facts that prove that Maj. E. W. Stephens took every precaution to secure himself against surprise by establishing pickets and patrols around his camp and properly instructing the same. A sergeant and 10 men had been sent into the field through which the enemy entered, with instructions to have no fires lighted and to keep the field patrolled from one side to the other during the entire night. These instructions were given by the major in the presence of witnesses, who can now be produced, and had they been observed, no enemy could have entered. The sergeant failed to obey instructions, allowing fires to be kindled and neglecting to patrol as directed. A rebel deserter who participated in the capture narrated to me the manner in which it was accomplished. Many of the attacking party were formerly residents of the neighborhood, and were familiar with every rod of the country; the darkness of the night favored the enterprise; they commenced their operations between 10 and 11 o'clock; after two hours' search in crawling around the picket-line a gap was discovered in the field mentioned above, through which they entered one at a time, crawling upon their hands and knees. In this manner they approached the camp, consuming nearly four hours in making a distance of half a mile. Owing to the darkness of the night the camp guard could not see the foe until within a few paces, and then too late to be of avail. Under these circumstances the best officer in the world could have done no better than the major did. I therefore believe that the best interests of the service demand that Maj. E. W. Stephens be released from rarest and returned to his command. Many of the facts mentioned above were not known when the subject was investigated by a court of inquiry, of which Lieutenant-Colonel Linton was president.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. THOBURN,
*Colonel First West Virginia Infantry Veterans.*

*For reports of the affair at Moorefield, see Vol. XXIX, Part I, p. 105.

CULPEPER, *March* 8, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. Ross SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The second reconnaissance sent out yesterday evening returned at 7 o'clock this morning, and reports as follows: They went beyond Woodville, but could gain no intelligence of any force of the enemy nearer than the Rapidan. No troops have passed on this side of the ridge since last fall, and citizens report no force in the valley unless well down. Fires in the direction of Little Washington proved to be burning brush. About 150 of the Sixth Virginia Cavalry are between there and Sperryville. As usual only a few were seen.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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YORKTOWN, VA., *March* 8, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: General Butler informs me that transports have been ordered to take my command to Washington. I have received no orders.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 110. } *Washington, March* 8, 1864.

* * * * * * *

35. The First Regiment Michigan Sharpshooters, assigned to the Ninth Army Corps by Special Orders, No. 55, current series, from this office, will be placed en route, without delay, for the depot of the Ninth Corps, at Annapolis, Md. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

36. Annapolis, Md., is hereby announced as a depot and rendezvous for such troops of the Ninth Army Corps, Major-General Burnside, U. S. Volunteers, commanding, as have been, or may be, ordered to that point. The new organizations in the respective States, now or hereafter to be assigned to the Ninth Corps, will, so soon as their recruitment is complete, be placed en route to the depot in question. General Burnside will immediately arrange for the care, control, and instruction of the aforesaid troops.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

W. A. NICHOLS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., March* 8, 1864.

Col. A. MOOR,
*Commanding First Brigade, Fourth Division:*

COLONEL: I am directed by General Averell to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of March 2. In reply he directs me to state that he has requested that Keeper's battery may be at once

furnished with horses, and thereby put into condition to move. He thinks that with the force you now have, two, or at most four, guns are all that it is advisable to send to Beverly in the present condition of the roads and the uncertain state of the weather. As soon as horses are furnished one or two sections will be ordered to Beverly. There are not now in the battery horses enough to take one section. In case of an attack by the enemy in so great force that the position cannot be held, he advises that you fall back with your main body to Laurel Hill, keeping open your communication with your base on the railroad. He desires the position at Laurel Hill held as long as it can be done without danger of sacrificing your command. In case you are compelled to fall back upon Beverly he would advise that you send two companies to the heights beyond Middle Fork, with instructions to hold that position. These companies can be detailed from your command at Beverly, or from the command of Major Bowen at Buckhannon. He recommends that you keep on hand at Beverly about one week's supplies.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MARCH 8, 1864.

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: Scouts report they have been whipped badly at Winchester. They are falling back skirmishing. Major Hunter went into Winchester and drove a small squad out; the rebels were re-enforced, and coming back drove our men out. They are falling back skirmishing. The rebels are supposed to be 250 strong.

W. W. MILES,
*Captain, Commanding Pickets.*

My force is not strong.

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 8, 1864.

Col. A. MOOR,
*Beverly:*

Order four guns of Keeper's battery to Beverly.

By order of Brigadier-General Averell:

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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POINT LOOKOUT, MD., *March* 8, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Commander Parker reports the steam-tug Titan, captured by the rebels at Cherrystone, burned in the Piankatank yesterday.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MARSTON,
*Brigadier-General*

YORKTOWN, *March* 8, 1864.

General HECKMAN,
*Getty's Station:*

GENERAL: Have Duncan's brigade ready to embark at Portsmouth at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning without fail, with two days' cooked rations and 70 rounds ammunition. The proper officers at Norfolk will answer your requisition in this behalf. Telegraph me at Fortress Monroe any difficulties in the way of the execution, and will smooth the difficulties, but there must be no impossibility.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 9, 1864.

In view of the near approach of the time when this army may be expected to resume active operations, the commanding general considers that the interests of the service require that the ladies now with the army, other than those here under the special authority of the War Department or these headquarters, as members of the Sanitary Commission or other charitable associations, should not longer remain with it. The commanding general therefore desires that the corps commanders cause the officers of their respective commands to be notified that it is expected they will make the necessary arrangements to send beyond the lines of the army, with as little delay as practicable, the ladies at present visiting them.

The authority heretofore given the provost-marshal-general to grant permits to ladies to visit the army upon the recommendation of corps commanders is revoked.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER, *March* 9, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. Ross SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

A reconnaissance to beyond James City yesterday discovered no enemy or signs of any. There was a rumor to the effect that the enemy's cavalry was in the neighborhood.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG:

The general commanding desires to say that you need not send the force to Page County until further orders. Please answer at once.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

BRISTOE, *March* 9, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:*

A scout of 40 men from this point was nearly all captured this morning near Greenwich. I have sent a regiment of infantry and the balance of the cavalry in pursuit. Major Kerwin has also telegraphed to General Gregg at Warrenton to endeavor to intercept the party who made the capture.

WM. McCANDLESS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 9, 1864.

Col. P. HUEY,
*Commanding Second Brigade Cavalry:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send 100 men at once to the vicinity of Auburn under a good officer.

A telegram just received from Major Kerwin, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, says that a detachment of about 40 men, under Lieutenant White, Thirteenth Pennsylvania, were attacked and nearly all captured by a party of the enemy, about 200 strong, near Greenwich. Colonel Taylor is ordered to send out to New Baltimore a party of 100 men. The commanding officer of the party will scour well the country, and upon return you will report to these headquarters.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 9, 1864.

Col. P. HUEY, *Commanding Second Brigade:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you detail from your brigade 350 enlisted men, with a proper number of commissioned officers, to report on the Waterloo road, in front of and just beyond the town of Warrenton, at 10 o'clock this p. m. This command will carry two days' rations of subsistence and one of forage, and a full supply of carbine ammunition. Let care be exercised that none but shod horses be sent.

You will direct Major Thaxter, First Maine Cavalry, to report at these headquarters at 9 o'clock this p. m.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, D. C., March* 9, 1864

WASHINGTON DEFENSES.

Ordered, first, that Brigadier-General Canby cause an immediate inspection to be made, by a competent officer, of all the fortifications and defenses around Washington, and that he make a detailed report of their condition for defensive purposes, and in respect to supplies,

ammunition, and forces; also as to the condition of the roads leading from Washington to the defenses, and of all roads necessary for the military operations of the fortifications.

Second, that he cause similar inspections to be made every week, and present to the Secretary of War in person a report on Wednesday of each week until further orders, the first report herein directed to be made on Monday next, the 14th instant.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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ALEXANDRIA, *March* 9, 1864.

Colonel TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: My men have scouted as usual to-day. They report that the picket at Prospect Hill, 4 miles above Fort Ethan Allen, was attacked twice during last night by mounted and dismounted men. The attack was repulsed. One rebel was killed.

H. H. WELLS,
*Provost-Marshal-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March* 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Your communication of the 5th, with inclosures, has just come to hand. Its reception has relieved me in regard to the character of the movement in the direction of Norfolk. Probably the raid of General Kilpatrick induced a call for some of Pickett's force in Virginia. Of this no information has reached me from North Carolina. As the Army of the Potomac will wait for good weather, the Confederates have some weeks in which to operate on their interior lines with all their disposable force.

The dispatch courier of Pickett's I examined yesterday. He confirms most of the statements made by deserters and refugees. He says that General Pickett had moved his family to Goldsborough, and proposed remaining there for some time. I send him back, having no further use for him. The little steamer Bombshell is safe. She is very useful; more such are needed. The report desired by General Graham will be made without delay. General Harland has reported, in obedience to your instructions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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YORKTOWN, VA., *March* 9, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: The force ordered left at 3 o'clock this morning. I have received orders to embark my command for Alexandria. When will the transports arrive, and how many animals and men can be shipped at a time?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
*Yorktown, Va., March 9, 1864.*

Col. J. B. KIDDOO,
*Commanding Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops:*

COLONEL: Be prepared by conference with Captain Babcock, U. S. Navy, to move forward with your regiment on the transport Morgan, under convoy of one of Captain Babcock's gun-boats, at a moment's notice from me, which I shall send the moment the transports containing Duncan's brigade come in sight down the river. When you receive the order to start your instructions are as follows: You will proceed (the gun-boat in advance) directly to Sheppard's warehouse wharf, on the north bank of the Mattapony, about 1 mile above West Point, where you will immediately land your forces by the wharf, if practicable; if not, then in boats. If seriously opposed, establish yourself under the guns of Captain Babcock. If not seriously opposed, push forward a strong force with great caution, and endeavor to get an advanced picket, securely supported, established on the main road leading from Gloucester Point to King and Queen Court-House, which road is about 1½ miles back from the river and runs parallel to it. This picket will be strong enough to intercept small parties or pickets of the enemy in flight toward King and Queen Court-House from my cavalry advancing northward from Gloucester Point. You may look for my cavalry about daylight to-morrow morning, when a battery (Hunt's) from them will stop and join you in reporting to me, together with three ambulances and my private horses. I expect to land at the same point and support you with Duncan's brigade about dark this evening, when you will report to me the events of the afternoon, with the particulars of your position. It is believed you will not find any opposition except from scattered bushwhackers, of which the vicinity was full yesterday, and from whom you must protect yourself by a careful system of pickets and skirmishing reconnaissances for short distances. Colonel Duncan's transports are in sight. You will execute the above order at once.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully,

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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BOWERS' HILL, *March 9*, 1864.

General HECKMAN:

Major Preston reports that he has been to Bernard's Mills. Found the enemy had retired beyond Jericho Creek, and had taken up the planks of the bridge. They have two batteries of four guns each posted on each side of the road on the hill, supported by three regiments of infantry, one of mounted infantry, and a regiment of cavalry. I have reports from the railroad, and the rebels yet picket at the water-tank. Mr. Yocum says a woman told him the rebels had sent a force with pontoons to cross near Sleepy Hole for the purpose of cutting off Major Preston. I have sent two companies on the Big Point road. Have withdrawn Major Preston to Shoulder's Hill, and Major Smith has about 400 men near that point. If the enemy cross at Sleepy Hole I shall try and gobble them.

N. B. LORD,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 28. } HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N. C., March* 9, 1864.

The moment when we are threatened with an advance by the enemy is the proper time to remind the gallant officers and soldiers of this command of the results of the recent operations in North Carolina. Besides the repulse of General Pickett's army at New Berne, the following have been captured: Six officers, 281 prisoners and dangerous rebels, 500 contrabands, 250 arms and accouterments, 138 horses and mules, 11 bales of cotton, 1 piece of artillery, caisson complete, 1 flag, many saddles, harness, and wagons. Much property of the rebel Government has been destroyed from inability to remove it, as appears by a partial list: 250,000 pounds of pork, 80 barrels of lard, 75 barrels of meat, 20,000 bushels of corn, 32 barrels of beef, 5 hogsheads of sugar, 5,000 empty sacks, 1 corn-mill, 10 wagons, 1 ton of tobacco, 18 mules, 2 warehouses of salt, and 2 extensive salt manufactories. Thousands of deserters have entered the lines and resumed their allegiance to the Federal Union with joy and gladness.

These valuable services will be appreciated by the Government and the people, and this brief allusion to them should stimulate all to renewed energy in the final campaign against the revolutionists.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, March* 10, 1864.

By order of the President, Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck is, at his own request, relieved from duty as General-in-Chief, commanding the Armies of the United States.

By order of the President:

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*March* 10, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Commander-in-Chief, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:*

Pursuant to the authority of the act of Congress approved February 29, 1864, the President, by Executive order of this date, has assigned to you the command of the Armies of the United States.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 10, 1864.

The major-general commanding requests me to inform you that Lieutenant-General Grant has arrived at his headquarters, and will remain this afternoon and to-night. He will be happy to see you here at any time during his brief stay.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

(To corps commanders.)

NEW YORK, *March* 10, 1864.
(Received 4.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

If desirable I can be in Washington to-morrow morning and return here to-morrow night.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON CITY, *March* 10, 1864—4.50 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
*New York City:*

General Grant has gone to the front. You had better wait until his return, of which I will notify you.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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ALEXANDRIA, VA., *March* 10, 1864—noon.

Major-General PLEASONTON:

Arrived with advance of my command, which will all probably be here to-morrow. Shall I send them to the front by regiments, after resting to-night, or wait till the whole comes on? General Kilpatrick is not here, and directed me to apply for instructions. I will be here until all of my men are disembarked. Shall I send dismounted men by rail or to Giesborough?

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARCH 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff, Department of Washington:*

I have the honor to report all quiet. A party of guerrillas stopped Major Willard's carriage and captured 2 horses belonging to a sutler in this command about 10 a. m. to-day, about 3 miles beyond our picket-line. They allowed the major to proceed on his way to Alexandria.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8.

WHEELING, W. VA., *March* 10, 1864.

In accordance with General Orders, No. 80, War Department, current series, I hereby assume command of the Department of West Virginia, headquarters at Cumberland, Md.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Cumberland:*

Two men, Emory and Hayden, of Baltimore, have been arrested attempting to pass lines southward, the former to join the rebel army and the latter to rejoin his company. Hayden had papers upon his person showing the military forces at Baltimore and this place. Shall I try him by military commission? Is the First Virginia Cavalry on the way here?

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Comdg. Department, Cumberland:*

Dispatch received. One prisoner's name is Duncan, instead of Hayden.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARCH 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY, *Comdg. Department, Cumberland:*

Nine rebels, assembled at a wedding near Winchester, were captured last night by one of my patrols, under Lieutenant Kerr, Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. All quiet.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding Division, Harper's Ferry:*

It is reported by one of my patrols that about 90 rebels, under Baylor, are hovering about Smithfield.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GETTY'S STATION, *March* 10, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Have just returned from the front; all quiet. Have re-established my pickets at Bernard's Mills. The rebels threw a number of shells at them this a. m. No damage done or likely to be.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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GETTY'S STATION, *March* 10, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have number of men without arms. My requisitions, forwarded some two weeks since, have received no attention. I wish you would

call the attention of the ordnance officer to the necessity of filling them immediately. The enemy has not advanced farther than Bernard's Mills. My cavalry are within a short distance of that point. The account in this morning's Old Dominion is incorrect. Cole's cavalry drove the enemy's cavalry every time they attacked him, and did not fall back until they opened with four pieces of artillery and attempted to flank him with three regiments of infantry, and his squadron that had been cut off dashed through the enemy and joined him. The officers say that their men performed admirably.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY RESERVE BRIGADE,
*March* 11, 1864—6 p. m.

Capt. GEORGE B. SANFORD,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Cav. Div., Culpeper, Va.:*

Captain Lockwood, Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, brigade officer of the day, brought me this morning a note, written in pencil, by Capt. Sam. Culbertson, First New York Dragoons, in charge of cavalry pickets on the left of the railroad, containing the following:

I have to report that a flag of truce, borne by Colonel Terrill, commanding Thirteenth Virginia Infantry, came to the river near Cedar Run this noon, with a request from Lieutenant-General Ewell, C. S. Army, that our pickets be withdrawn beyond musket-range, to prevent conversation.

The enemy have been very desirous of obtaining information from our pickets ever since General Kilpatrick went out. Major Crittenden, whose wife is in Culpeper, has three times attempted to communicate with her, as far as I can ascertain unsuccessfully.

Respectfully,

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, March* 11, 1864—11.39 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
*New York:*

General Grant will return here to-day. It would be well for you to come on at once.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 11, 1864.

Captain MCENTEE, with
General KILPATRICK,
*Fortress Monroe:*

The general commanding desires you to return to headquarters with such of our men as are not hurt. If General Kilpatrick is not coming immediately, you will come by way of Washington. Transportation will be furnished you on application.

By command of Major-General Meade:

SHARPE,
*Colonel.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SUSQUEHANNA,
*Chambersburg, Pa., March* 11, 1864.

His Excellency Governor A. G. CURTIN,
*Harrisburg, Pa.:*

DEAR GOVERNOR: Major Burt has informed me of what you told him to-day in reference to the rebels organizing an expedition for this valley, &c.

I have heard of various rumors to the same effect for perhaps two weeks past, and in consequence have given the matter serious consideration. I cannot, however, but believe that the rebel authorities are the authors of these stories, for the purpose of preventing our people from moving forward, and making us put ourselves on the defensive. My reasons are these: With a small party—a few thousand—they would be liable to be cut off, for, Sigel's troops being in their rear, and [*sic*] leisurely, they could not carry off enough spoils to make it an object, and I do not think that they will come with their whole army, as last summer. Still, I shall be on the lookout, and if they do come will try and do the best.

Hoping that all will be well with us, I am, very respectfully,

D. N. COUCH,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GILMAN MARSTON,
*Commanding Point Lookout:*

GENERAL: I sent you yesterday a 4½-inch rifle gun, 100 rounds of ammunition. The gun is on a siege carriage. I think that with that you will be able to protect yourself from your friends in the mortar schooner. Captain Farquhar, chief engineer, goes up to lay out the proper works for the protection of the harbor and of your prisoners. I inclose herein a paper* upon the subject of keeping the prisoners. Captain Farquhar is an engineer of great skill and promise, and I should advise you to adopt his suggestions. With your prisoners you will be able to make out those redoubts very quickly. Any requisition you may make upon us will be promptly answered. Of course you will make all the stockades of timber from the wood and not from sawed timber.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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ON THE ROAD, 3 MILES ABOVE OLD DRAGON,
*March* 11, 1864—12.25 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I cannot send word back by transports, which were ordered to leave at 6 p. m. yesterday in absence of other orders, and I presume did so.

The storm yesterday was very severe and rain heavy; roads knee deep and hard on men and horses. General Kilpatrick says he can't possibly get cavalry across the Dragon anywhere. He tried at old

*Not found.

and new bridges. To-day it is worse. He objected strongly to going to Middlesex, which, indeed, can only be done by building bridges. I have therefore directed him to proceed home direct with all cavalry except 200, which I retain for scouting, &c.

It is now raining again, with every prospect of a continuance. It will take infantry till Sunday night to reach Yorktown in present condition of roads.

General Kilpatrick has made no detailed report. His cavalry only went a short distance beyond the infantry. From there he sent out my cavalry (First Mounted Rifles and Eleventh Pennsylvania) to King and Queen Court-House and Carlton's Store, where Colonel Onderdonk reports finding 1,200 rebel cavalry, which he charged, routed, dispersed, and chased for 10 miles during the storm of yesterday, killing, wounding, and capturing a number, destroying camp, arms, stores, &c.

In haste, respectfully,

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 31. HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N. C., March* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Edward Harland, U. S. Volunteers, having reported for duty in this district, is assigned to the command of the Sub-district of the Pamlico, with headquarters at Washington, N. C., relieving Col. J. M. McChesney, First North Carolina Volunteers.

It is due to Colonel McChesney that the commanding general should express his appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered and the ability he has exhibited in his administration of the affairs of the sub-district.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 32. HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N.C., March* 11, 1864.

I. Mainly through the philanthropy of Northern hearts, ample and liberal means have been provided for the moral and religious training of the colored children of North Carolina.

No portion of this bounty has been diverted for the education of the poor white children, and thousands are within the lines growing up in vice and ignorance. Unless they are properly instructed, the American people have no guarantee that they will not in the future attempt to revolutionize the Government and destroy its noble institutions. History will record that the lack of that knowledge which results from a general system of education was one of the leading causes of the existing revolution.

II. It is ordered that free schools be organized at once in New Berne, under such female teachers as may from time to time be authorized. The provost-marshal will procure suitable rooms. The expenses will be paid from the civil fund on orders from these headquarters.

III. Rev. J. Hill Rouse, hospital chaplain; Prof. W. H. Dougherty, and Surg. D. W. Hand, medical director, are appointed as inspectors of schools without compensation. They will report at least

monthly upon their condition, making such recommendations as will promote the objects in view.

IV. At an early day schools will be opened in Washington, Beaufort, and perhaps other places.

By command of Major-General Peck:

BENJ. B. FOSTER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 98. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, March* 12, 1864.

The President of the United States orders as follows:

I. Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck is, at his own request, relieved from duty as General-in-Chief of the Army, and Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant is assigned to the command of the Armies of the United States.

The headquarters of the Army will be in Washington, and also with Lieutenant-General Grant in the field.

II. Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck is assigned to duty in Washington, as Chief of Staff of the Army, under the direction of the Secretary of War and the lieutenant-general commanding. His orders will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

* * * * * * *

V. In relieving Major-General Halleck from duty as General-in-Chief the President desires to express his approbation and thanks for the able and zealous manner in which the arduous and responsible duties of that position have been performed.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 12, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

The inclosed dispatch from General Merritt is just received, through Major-General Pleasonton. The reason for the request of General Ewell is left to surmise, so far as communicated by General Merritt. Please return the two dispatches for file. The messenger bearing the flag of truce appears to have gone back. I can ascertain from General Merritt by telegraph, and at the same time inquire if there has been any picket firing recently. There appears to be no necessity for an immediate reply.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Culpeper, Va., March* 12, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff:*

A communication, under a flag of truce, was received by Colonel Gibbs, commanding Reserve Brigade, asking that our picket along

the Rapidan River be removed beyond musket-shot. The message came from General Ewell (rebel). No answer returned. The message was brought by Colonel Terrill, commanding Thirteenth Virginia Infantry. Has the major-general commanding any order in this matter?

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 12, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding desires to know whether the pickets along the Rapidan have been advanced closer to the river recently; whether there has been any picket firing recently, and whether the enemy can drive our pickets from the river without crossing; whether the present position of the picket-line along the river is essential to watching and giving timely notice of the movements of the enemy, or is unnecessarily advanced, and by being so threatens the enemy, and for that reason is subject to attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to reply to your inquiries as follows: The pickets along the Rapidan have not been advanced. There was some picket firing night before last, merely a few shots. Some of the pickets are in musket-range, and could be driven back without the enemy crossing. If the picket is drawn back he cannot watch the crossing, but I think could give timely information of the movements of the enemy. I do not think the line is unnecessarily advanced or that it threatens an attack from the enemy. There appears to be one post that has a commanding position that draws the fire of the enemy; the other posts do not draw the enemy's fire.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 12, 1864.
(Received 12 m.)

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Army of the Potomac:*

My men will all have embarked by to-morrow noon. I will report in person on Tuesday.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 12, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON:

You will have a thorough inspection made of both horses and men immediately on the return of Kilpatrick's command. The number of both horses and men that return must be carefully counted and noted and specific report as to condition of animals.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 97. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, March* 12, 1864.

1. Maj. Gen. Lewis Wallace, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the Eighth Army Corps and of the Middle Department, exclusive of Fort Delaware.

2. The commanding officer of Fort Delaware will report direct to the War Department, and his post will not be considered as belonging to any geographical department.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General KELLEY,
*Cumberland:*

Colonel Moor is apprehensive of an attack upon Beverly. I think it necessary to order up at least one section of Keeper's battery from Webster, but he has only 20 serviceable horses. Will you please direct that he be furnished with some more as soon as possible?

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 12, 1864.
(Received 4.35 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

Wistar is with the infantry, clearing out the land pirates and other guerrillas in Middlesex and Mathews Counties. He will return on Sunday. He was at Old Dragon Bridge on the 11th at 12 m.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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YORKTOWN, *March* 12, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Have just returned. Left infantry and artillery with prisoners at Wood's Ordinary. Roads are bad. They will camp within 7 miles of Gloucester Point to-night. Some of the prisoners badly wounded. General Kilpatrick has gone without leaving any report for me. He has some prisoners. I have about 40.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

MARCH 12, 1864.

Colonel WEST:

Request Colonel Onderdonk to make immediate report to me of the service of his regiment and the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry in the late expedition. Their good conduct, as contrasted with some other troops, entitles them to special mention in my report.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March* 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. Virginia and North Carolina, Fort Monroe:*

GENERAL: A Mr. Miller, whose wife is in Kinston, left here about the 25th February, and has just come in with information that is entirely reliable. He states that some 400 men were put at work on the gun-boat by Pickett on his return, with instructions to complete her as soon as possible, and before the 14th (anniversary of the fall of New Berne). The boat is virtually done, and two additional guns for her arrived last Tuesday, making four in all. He was at the blockade, and it has been all removed and the channel staked out. He says Pickett fully intends to give us a hard one, cutting the railway and placing batteries on the river below. The raid of Kilpatrick and the move of the Army of the Potomac broke up his plans, or postponed them for the present. Some of his troops were called to Virginia. He thinks they have great faith in the ram and fully intend an attack when there is a freshet. I shall send this man up again before many weeks.

Your communication of the 9th has just reached me by Lieutenant Carpenter and the Farrow, with papers, for which I am obliged. I had hoped a sufficient force might be sent here to enable me to take the offensive, and give the State a chance to break away from the rotten Confederacy, when the people would rally around the army of deliverance and the Union. This hope is long deferred, I fear. My arrangements are such that I shall be glad to have Pickett attack here with any reasonable amount of force. He will meet such a resistance as he has not dreamed of in his philosophy. "Unceasing vigilance is the price of liberty," and I keep all at work in appropriate spheres.

So far as respects the ram in the Neuse, I do not feel apprehensive, since the obstructions have been completed. I have built a new work on the right of my line, where it intersects the river, and have a 100-pounder gun (rifled) in position, which I brought from Macon. Should the gun-boats give way at that position, our line is now secure.

With great satisfaction I notice your assurance of sending veterans here in order that these may go on furlough.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 13, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding considers it probable that the communication by flag of truce yesterday to Colonel Gibbs was unauthorized by General Ewell, and directs that a minute report be made by Colonel Gibbs of everything that occurred in the meeting of the bearer of the flag of truce, what was said by Colonel Terrill, whether his appearance indicated him to be an officer of the rank he claimed to have, where the flag of truce crossed the Rapidan, where it crossed our picket-line, &c.; in short, everything to enable the commanding general to judge of the genuineness of the flag of truce.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, March* 13, 1864.

Memoranda for Major-General Augur, commanding Department of Washington:

First. Colonel Whistler, in command of Forts Haggerty, Corcoran, Strong, and C. F. Smith, is reported as inefficient. He should be replaced by a more vigilant officer, and sent to his regiment.

Second. A detachment of cavalry is required in the vicinity of Chain Bridge for scouting, &c.

Third. Twenty days' surplus rations should be kept in forts at Chain Bridge and below Hunting Creek; ten days' rations in the others.

Fourth. Garrisons to be turned out to obstruct such roads as engineers may decide not to be necessary for travel, which should be confined to main roads.

Fifth. Artillery practice should commence.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, March* 13, 1864.

Memoranda for General J. G. Barnard, chief engineer Defenses of Washington:

First. Stockades to be immediately built on roads leading to Aqueduct, Chain, and Long Bridges.

Second. Road to be built connecting Forts Strong and C. F. Smith.

Third. All wood roads leading to the exterior not required for travel to be obstructed so as to confine travel through the lines to the main roads.

Fourth. Magazine in Fort Strong defective; to be repaired or a new one built.

Fifth. A well to be dug in Fort C. F. Smith; the engineers will locate it and the quartermaster will construct it.

The items reported on recent inspection of defenses, the Secretary of War directs that they be immediately attended to.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff.*

CUMBERLAND, *March* 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

Yes; you may come.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Cumberland:*

Scouting parties all in. Everything quiet in front.

LOUIS A. MYERS,
*Captain and Provost-Marshal.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Cumberland:*

Gaddess, just in from Winchester, reports Gilmor with considerable force at Newtown this a. m.

T. F. LANG,
*Major and Aide-de-Camp.*

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OFFICE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER, FOURTH DIVISION,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., March* 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL,
*Commanding Fourth Division:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith a synopsis of my inspection of yesterday. I would respectfully call your attention to the following facts: The horses of the command are in a very bad condition, and this is caused purely by the negligence of the officers, whose duty it should be to care for them. The grooming generally is wretched, and, from the looks of the horses, the feeding and watering is worse. As a whole, the horses of the Fifth West Virginia were in the best condition. Those of Gibson's battalion, with the exception of Captain Smith's company, were in miserable order, and in one company, that of Captain Hagans, the only inference I can draw from the looks of the horses is that they have never been fed, watered, or groomed but in the most loose and reckless manner. The stables of the whole battalion were in the most filthy condition. The horses of Captain Ewing's battery looked well, but there also I noticed a lack of proper grooming. The horses of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania were tolerable, but I noticed a most lamentable ignorance in many officers as regarded the condition of their companies; indeed, throughout the day I found sergeants and even corporals called upon for reports with which captains of companies should at all times have been perfectly conversant.

The horses of the Eighth West Virginia had in many cases but just returned from water or picket duty and were very muddy; however, the same fault of too little grooming was observable. I desire

to compliment Captain Smith, of Gibson's battalion; his horses were the best groomed and cared for of any in the whole command, and it only shows that every horse with proper treatment can be made not only serviceable but enduring. Captain Smith, of Company F, Fifth West Virginia, knew nothing of the state of his, and is short, and cannot account for 9 horses which he has reported as belonging to his company. Captain Thompson, of the Sixth West Virginia, was, if possible, more ignorant than Captain Smith, and Lieutenant Davidson, of the same regiment, more ignorant and careless than either. Captain Thompson is now commanding the Sixth West Virginia, and an officer who understands so little of his company must know less of his regiment. I would state to the general commanding that throughout the whole command the morning reports as a general thing are incorrect and should be inspected. I am confident there are more men in the division fit for duty than appears on the paper.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. BROWN,

*Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 13, 1864.

(Received 10.25 p. m.)

P. H. WATSON,

*Assistant Secretary of War:*

I need very much 1,000 revolvers for my cavalry. May I rely upon your good offices to exert yourself to get them for me? The cavalry are actually in the field, and need them much, and but a small portion of them now have pistols. My requisition was refused because it was said that cavalry did not need two kinds of fire-arms. I agree to that. What I am trying now to get is one kind.

B. F. BUTLER,

*Major-General.*

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CIRCULAR.] ARTILLERY HDQRS., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 14, 1864.

I. You will at once take the necessary steps to put your brigade in condition to take the field, and for this purpose direct requisition for the necessary number of horses and other materials to be made out.

II. Should you consider it advisable, the number of horses in a six-gun battery may be carried up to 116, and for a four-gun battery 88, but the number of spare horses should not be carried beyond the possible wants, as the supplies for the number we have are limited.

III. The ammunition should, so far as practicable, be made to conform to the proportions directed in General Orders, No. 5, of 1863, from these headquarters, viz, 12 to 16 solid shot, 12 to 8 shrapnel, 4 shell, 4 canister to each chest for 12-pounders; 25 to 30 shell, 20 to 15 shrapnel, 5 canister to each chest for rifle guns.

IV. Care should be also taken that both Hotchkiss and Schenkl shell, or Hotchkiss and Schenkl shrapnel, should not be used in the same battery. Where such mixtures have taken place the batteries should exchange with each other and with the train, and reduce so far as possible the kind of ammunition which they do not habitually use.

There is scarcely any occasion on which the percussion-fuse is not superior to the time-fuse shell. It would be a good rule to use only the percussion. Every effort is now being made to provide a concussion shell for the light 12-pounder to supersede the time-fuse.

V. When requisitions are hereafter made for one kind of ammunition another kind will not be received until it is ascertained that the Artillery Reserve train cannot furnish it, nor even then, except in very urgent cases, will a different kind of ammunition be received than that asked for.

VI. By a circular from these headquarters, dated December 17, 1863, paragraph I, you were notified that a supply of new canister for light 12-pounders had been ordered (72 3-ounce balls to the canister), and you were requested to make requisition for it at a rate not to exceed 10 rounds per gun. Will you please state in your report of your train if such canister has been received, and call special attention to it with a view of obtaining a report as to its efficiency in our next battles?

VII. When proper ground can be found in the vicinity of a corps, a course of target practice should be entered upon, of which careful records should be kept and a copy sent to these headquarters. (See Article XI, page 16, Revised Regulations.) In this practice batteries should use only the kind of ammunition they use in battle. Application must be made to the chief of artillery for permission to practice, stating the day and hour at which it is to commence, in order that notice may be given to the other corps and to prevent alarm.

VIII. The trains will be immediately inspected, and a report of their condition and that of the ammunition made to the chief of artillery, in order, if there are deficiencies, that steps be taken to supply them.

The allowance of wagons is as follows: Brigade headquarters, two wagons; brigade medical department, one wagon; brigade transportation of subsistence for sales to officers, one wagon; each four-gun battery, four wagons; each six-gun battery, five wagons; to every twenty-five ammunition wagons, five additional ones for transportation of forage for the teams.

By command of Brigadier-General Hunt:

JNO. N. CRAIG,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

(To chiefs of corps artillery, artillery reserve, and horse brigades.)

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*March* 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General BARTLETT,
*Commanding First Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you cause a picket to be thrown out on the Bealeton and Morrisville road, and to take a position that will command a good view of the country in that direction, the strength of the picket to consist of 1 non-commissioned officer and 9 men. They will be relieved daily. The major-general commanding directs me to say further that he wants the pickets of your Third Brigade to exercise the utmost vigilance in

keeping people from passing through our lines. He desires the orders of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac to be strictly carried out and the integrity of the picket-line sustained.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*March* 14, 1864—5.15 p. m.

General WARREN:

A working party of 30 or 40 of the enemy have been employed to-day constructing a work on the river near Raccoon Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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MARTINSBURG, *March* 14, 1864.

Capt. W. M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Harper's Ferry:*

An escaped prisoner reports having seen 28 of Gilmor's men at Newtown last night, together with several squads of footmen. The cavalry came up the Berryville pike. Citizens say the infantry intend to work round our picket fires to-night and meet Gilmor and make an attack somewhere; he could not learn where. Reports that country full of marauding squads.

GEO. D. WELLS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *March* 14, 1864.

Col. GEORGE D. WELLS:

Be on the alert. I have no cavalry out that will come in your direction, so that you will not allow yourself to be deceived by the approach of cavalry in Federal uniforms.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

An escaped prisoner from Libby prison in rebel uniform reports that he saw Gilmor with 28 mounted men and a few squads dismounted last night, 10 o'clock, above Winchester. Mounted men went toward Charlestown, dismounted westward. Says they will meet inside our lines to-night for the purpose of making a dash; stealing horses, perhaps.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

HARPER'S FERRY, *March* 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

I have information, which I do not deem reliable, that Imboden is in the valley at Millwood. I shall soon know whether the rumor be true or not.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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NASHVILLE, TENN., *March* 14, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
*New York:*

I have ordered the Ninth Army Corps from Knoxville to Annapolis and requested the Secretary of War to direct the veterans to rendezvous at that place. Please send this order to all regiments of the corps about to return to the field.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, March* 14, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

Such immense numbers of cavalry are now being called into the field that it is impracticable to furnish them both pistols and carbines. Five hundred pistols will be sent to you to-day. After a few weeks the supply of cavalry arms will be increased.

P. H. WATSON,
*Assistant Secretary of War.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March* 14, 1864.

General I. N. PALMER,
*Commanding Sub-district of New Berne:*

GENERAL: The commanding general wishes to know what men are now in charge of Brant Island. Are they soldiers, and, if so, how many? Reliable information has been received that there is a band of about 60 guerrillas organized and now moving along the shore between Swan Quarter and Rose Bay, preparing to cross the mouth of Pamlico River in small boats and attack the island. Please answer as soon as possible.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. D. OUTWATER,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*March* 15, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

All quiet. Working party of the enemy engaged this a. m. on work near Raccoon Ford, as reported yesterday.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

---

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*March* 15, 1864—5 p. m.

General WARREN:

Enemy still working near Raccoon Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 49. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 15, 1864.

* * * * * * *

III. Brigadier-General Averell, commanding Fourth Division, will immediately take command of all the cavalry forces now attached to his own division and that of Brigadier-General Sullivan, and organize and use them according to his discretion. He will make the necessary detail for the division of General Sullivan. The infantry now attached to Brigadier-General Averell's division will be disposed of by further orders from these headquarters.

* * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

By special orders transmitted by telegraph you are assigned to the command of all the cavalry forces of the First and Fourth Divisions. You will also act as commander of cavalry outposts for the two divisions, and establish your line as you think proper. Inform General Sullivan well of your dispositions and the movements of the enemy according to latest information. It is necessary for you to select your best cavalry from what you have to find out immediately what the enemy is doing in our front. In case of emergency you will not allow your cavalry to be separated from the line to Williamsport or Cumberland. Report frequently to me.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, *March* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

I have no further information. All quiet.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

Three scouting parties have been sent out to-day, one to Bloomery Gap, to return via Pughtown and Mills' Gap; another to Pughtown and 10 miles beyond, to return via Winchester, and one to Smithfield, Bunker Hill, &c. No news since morning.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

I send Captain Rumsey to-night to you with information and papers.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding, Harper's Ferry:*

From department headquarters, Special Orders, No. 49, places me in command of the cavalry of the First and Fourth Divisions. Will you please inform me what cavalry you have and where it is? Will you also please inform me by letter what duties have ordinarily been devolved upon our cavalry, and your views as to positions, pickets, and the enemy, recent and probable operations in future?

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

Please give me your latest information from up the valley.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Your telegram of this evening, referring to probable movement of the enemy, received. The general commanding requests that you communicate this and other information of similar character received by you to Brigadier-General Averell, at Martinsburg, as well as to these headquarters.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. HDQRS. MID. DEPT., 8TH ARMY CORPS,
*Baltimore, Md., March* 15, 1864.

I. Whereas by an act of Congress approved July 17, 1862, the President of the United States was authorized to receive into the service of the United States for any military or naval service for which they may be found competent persons of African descent;

and whereas by an act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, all able-bodied male citizens of the United States, between the ages of twenty and forty-five years, are declared to constitute the national forces, and shall be liable to perform military duty when called upon by the President; therefore, all colored men, slaves or otherwise, in this department come within this act.

Col. S. M. Bowman, chief mustering and recruiting officer for colored troops in Maryland, is authorized to enlist all such in the service of the United States; and for this purpose he is directed to send a recruiting officer, accompanied by a surgeon, to jails, slave-pens, or other places of confinement, who shall be authorized to enlist all colored men found in these places, if passed by the surgeon, upon their signifying their willingness so to enlist, provided that none so enlisted are held under criminal process.

And any one who shall refuse to give access to such recruiting officer, or who shall throw obstacles in the way of the execution of this order, will be reported to these headquarters, and such offender will be held responsible for interfering with enlistments and dealt with accordingly.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. H. Lockwood:

WM. H. CHESEBROUGH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 118. WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, March* 15, 1864.

* * * * * * *

55. On the expiration of their furloughs, all veteran troops of the Ninth Army Corps, Major-General Burnside, U. S. Volunteers, commanding, will be sent to the depot for the Ninth Corps at Annapolis, Md. Superintendents of recruiting service for States which are represented in the Ninth Corps are charged with the prompt execution of this order.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 16, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

The following intelligence received from scouts just returned is sent for your information:

The enemy are making large preparations for the capture of Norfolk. Heavy details are made from Pickett's division to work on the gun-boats now building at Richmond. The work is pushed night and day, and it is expected three gun-boats will be finished in three or four weeks. They are also building floats or rafts to carry guns to move down the James River with their fleet. Longstreet is to have command on the Blackwater for the main attack on Norfolk. His whole command is expected at Petersburg. His force estimated at 15,000. Pontoons have been sent from Richmond to Petersburg. A feint will be made on Williamsburg with a force of 3,000 infantry, with some cavalry and artillery, and for this purpose Ford's Bridge over the Chickahominy is being rebuilt. *

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*Substance of this paragraph telegraphed to Augur, same date. Repeated to Grant by Halleck, March 17.

The above information is brought by a man by the name of H. Lohman, whom our scouts brought back with them, and who represents himself as having been sent by Union men in Richmond to communicate the above and other information to the War Department. Lohman will be sent up to-morrow with an officer.

Our scouts also report that Jeb Stuart is collecting a cavalry force at Fredericksburg to make a raid on our rear, and is only waiting for the Rappahannock to become fordable to cross at or near Fredericksburg. They also report the enemy sending supplies and ammunition in great quantities over both roads (uniting at Hanover Junction) to Lee's army.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 16, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

All quiet. Same party working near Raccoon Ford to-day.

TAYLOR.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 16, 1864.

The following dispatch has been received from the Adjutant-General's Office, and is published for general information:

WASHINGTON, *March* 16, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

So much of paragraph 5 of General Orders, No. 376, of 1863, from this office, as orders the assignment of men not re-enlisting as veteran volunteers to duty in other companies and regiments until the expiration of their term of service, is revoked, and all enlisted men assigned or transferred to other companies or regiments under this provision will be returned to their original company or regiment at once, if in the field, or in case the regiment is on furlough, as soon as it returns.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 16, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

I have the honor herewith to transmit an extract from a communication which has been received from Col. George H. Sharpe, deputy provost-marshal-general, in relation to an anticipated raid by the enemy's cavalry on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.*

The commanding general directs that you hold Gregg's division in readiness to move at very short notice, and that as many men as

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*See Meade to Halleck, p. 681.

can be spared from the two other divisions of your corps be organized into a force to support any movement it may be necessary to make and prepared to march promptly.

The commanding general further directs that you send a detachment to Grove Church to watch the enemy's movements, and to give timely notice of his approach should he cross the river.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 16, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 11.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR, *Washington:*

Our scouts report Jeb Stuart as collecting a cavalry force at Fredericksburg, intending to cross there as soon as the Rappahannock is fordable, to operate on our rear. They say it was reported another force was to move on my right flank and rear.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
*Martinsburg, March* 16, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM M. BOONE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Harper's Ferry:*

Three negroes in from Strasburg report that Gilmor is wounded; that Imboden and Rosser have received orders to join Longstreet, and it is believed that they have gone.

GEO. D. WELLS,
*Colonel.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry:*

Dispatch received. I think the woman was frightened. I have out three patrols, one to Bloomery Gap, one beyond Pughtown, and one to Smithfield. I have to request you to direct the senior officer of your cavalry to report to me in person at this place as soon as practicable, bringing with him the latest returns of all the cavalry with your division.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL,
*Commanding Division, Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

GENERAL: I spoke with Captain Rumsey to-day and gave him all information I could at this moment. I will make no disposition of

the infantry at Beverly, and intend to leave it with you if it can possibly be done. The infantry now attached to your command from General Sullivan's division is temporarily under your orders in regard to discipline, drill, &c., and you may order it out for this purpose at your discretion. The commander of those troops should try his best to keep them in a condition to assist you at a moment's notice, and prepare them for the duties they have to perform. In regard to your cavalry, I would advise you to be very careful in selecting the proper officers for the command of your brigades, as it is difficult to make any change afterward. I will probably be under the necessity to order the Fifth Virginia (Colonel Latham's regiment) away from you, but am in hopes to send you some other regiment. The quartermaster is instructed to establish cavalry depots at Hagerstown, Morgantown, and Parkersburg, respectively, for all serviceable and unserviceable horses received from the Cavalry Bureau at Washington, or sent there from the different divisions. A cavalry officer will be assigned to these depots to receive all dismounted men for the purpose of mounting them and returning them to their commands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE CAVALRY,
*Charleston, W. Va., March* 16, 1864.

Maj. JOHN J. HOFFMAN,
*Commanding Second Virginia Cavalry Volunteers:*

SIR: You will immediately proceed in command of six companies of your regiment into the counties of Wayne and Cabell, W. Va., to meet and capture or destroy a rebel force under Colonel French, of the rebel army, which is reported in that region. Colonel Brown, commanding the Thirteenth Virginia Infantry, will co-operate with you in accomplishing the object of the expedition. Your command will be supplied with four days' rations for the men, and two days' forage. You will levy on the country for supplies, as far as possible. In case you do not find the enemy you will make a thorough reconnaissance in those two counties. You will report at these headquarters immediately in person for further instructions, first having your men in preparation for the march.

By command of Brig. Gen. A. N. Duffié:

E. W. CLARK, JR.,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 16, 1864.

Col. G. R. LATHAM,
*Grafton, W. Va.:*

Would it suit to order the Fifth [West Virginia] Cavalry to New Creek instead of Grafton, or other point west? The general commanding desires your views.

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

NASHVILLE, TENN., *March* 16, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *New York:*

General Parke is ordered to report to you in person immediately.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Morristown, Tenn., March* 16, 1864.

I. In obedience to orders from the lieutenant-general commanding the Army,* the Ninth Corps, Major-General Parke commanding, is relieved from duty in this department, and will proceed to Annapolis, Md., and report to the Adjutant-General of the Army for orders.

II. Their transportation will all be turned over to the acting chief quartermaster in the field, except what may be necessary to subsist them to Loudon, at which place the remainder will be transferred to the transportation quartermaster at Knoxville, who will make his arrangements to receive the train at the point named. The ambulances will be turned over at Knoxville.

III. The battalion of Sixth Indiana Mounted Infantry (serving dismounted), now with the Ninth Corps, will report for duty to Major-General Stoneman, commanding Twenty-third Army Corps. Batteries L and M, Third U. S. Artillery, will turn over their guns, horses, transportation, and material to Captain Shields, Nineteenth Ohio Battery, and the company will be transported by railroad, upon being relieved by Captain Shields' company.

The remainder of the Ninth Corps present will march on Thursday morning, taking the road running along the north side of Bay's Mountain, parallel to the Morristown and Knoxville road, and coming into the main road at or near Mossy Creek. Their reserved transportation may be sent by the main road. The officers of the command are enjoined to allow as little as possible to be known of the direction or purpose of their movement.

IV. Brigadier-General Wood, commanding Third Division, Fourth Army Corps, is ordered to relieve Colonel Morrison's brigade, Ninth Corps, on the Chucky Bend road this (Wednesday) evening, with two regiments of his command. He will move one brigade to-morrow morning, 17th instant, into the line now occupied by the Ninth Corps, keeping the remaining brigade in reserve in vicinity of the present camp.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. NINTH ARMY CORPS, *Morristown, March* 16, 1864.

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II. The general commanding being temporarily called from the command of the corps, it is hereby ordered that Brig. Gen. O. B. Willcox, Second Division, Ninth Army Corps, assume command from this date.

By command of Major-General Parke:

SAML. WRIGHT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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* Of March 14.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 31. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA, *Fort Monroe, Va., March* 16, 1864.

A commission, consisting of Capt. George P. Edgar, aide-de-camp, Capt. George J. Carney, assistant quartermaster, and M. Dudley Bean, esq., of Norfolk, is hereby appointed for the purpose of caring for and supplying the needs of the poor white people in Norfolk, Elizabeth City, and Princess Anne Counties, who are a charge upon the United States, and employing such as are willing to work and are without employment, and also for the purpose of extending and controlling all the charitable associations now extant, or which may be organized. The post commissaries and quartermasters will furnish all necessary aid to the furtherance of the objects of this order when desired. All orders and summons issued by this commission must be respected and obeyed. The provost-marshals will furnish military aid when needed. Reports will be made directly to these headquarters.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 17, 1864.

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG,
*Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:*

COLONEL: The accompanying statement* was forwarded from Cavalry Corps headquarters, with instructions that a force be sent from this command "to capture the men and house herein referred to; to arrest Mrs. Monroe, and bring her within our lines and deliver her to the provost-marshal-general, and to destroy her house."

You will, for the purpose, send from your brigade a command of 150 men, with a proper number of commissioned officers. The command will start to-morrow morning, each trooper carrying two days' subsistence and one day's forage. Upon the return of the command a written report will be made to these headquarters of the extent to which these instructions have been carried out. Let the officer commanding the party be instructed to arrest the proper person, Mrs. Sarah Monroe.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brig. Gen. of Volunteers, Comdg. 2d Cavalry Division.*

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STEVENSBURG, *March* 17, 1864.

Capt. F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

Colonel Bryan, of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, left at daylight this morning for Grove Church.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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*Not found.

GROVE CHURCH, VA., *March* 17, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

Arrived here at half-past 5 p. m. with my command, 179 men. Think my force too small. The country is full of scouts. Have sent a force as directed.

T. M. BRYAN,
*Colonel, Commanding Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

P. S.—Orderly awaits answer at Bealeton till daylight.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

The general commanding directs that you re-enforce Colonel Bryan with 125 men early in the morning.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps.*

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HDQRS. FIRST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., March* 17, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of West Va.:*

I have the honor to state, for the information of the major-general commanding, that in my opinion the force now within this division is inadequate to garrison Maryland Heights and vicinity. This is owing to the large number of men at present on furlough as veteran volunteers, and the number of men required to guard the railroad between Monocacy bridge and Sleepy Creek. In my judgment three more regiments of infantry should be sent here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL,
*Martinsburg:*

Special Orders, No. 51. The Fifth West Virginia Cavalry will proceed to Cumberland, Md., and report through the commanding officer to these headquarters.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 17, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

Shall establish picket-line for the present from Shenandoah, opposite Charlestown, to Ganotown, on Back Creek, with patrols up to

line from Snicker's Gap to Romney road. Patrols will watch over Loudoun. Some indications show that a portion of enemy's cavalry in the valley has gone to co-operate with Longstreet or Morgan.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, March* 17, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe:*

I have sent you a copy of a telegram from General Meade relating to the enemy's supposed designs on Norfolk.* If there is anything you need let me know, and, if possible, it shall be furnished. General Hinks has been ordered to join you without delay. I have not heard anything respecting General Weitzel, but supposed from your telegram that he was to be at Washington. Do you want any officers?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 17, 1864—5.10 p. m.
(Received 6.20 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

We can find on our maps no such bridge as Ford's Bridge. Bottom's, Long, and Jones' Bridges are all the bridges below the York River Railroad we know of. Will find the value of the information at once. What is most necessary here is light-draught iron-clads to hold the river. Call attention of the Navy to that. If they can hold the river we can hold the land. Will ask for officers soon.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.35 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

There appears to be no doubt, from the reports of scouts, that a detachment, strength unknown, has recently been sent from Lee's army to Richmond. It would also appear that Longstreet has been present at Orange Court-House within a few days past, though there is no indication of any of his forces having reached there. It is further reported that Early's command has either returned or is now returning to the main army. Furloughs are still being given in Lee's army, and no other changes than those above reported noted. I am very anxious this army should be put in condition to move. Preliminary to this I consider of the utmost importance the reorganization, and this cannot well be executed till the return of Major-General Hancock, who has not yet reported. I called the attention of the honorable Secretary of War to this point on the 14th instant, and beg his attention may again be called to it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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*See Meade to Halleck, March 16, 10 p. m., p. 681.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

The following information just received, by a contraband who reached Mitchell's Station this morning: Stuart's cavalry preparing for a raid from Robertson River. Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry at Charlottesville Wednesday. A force of infantry sent to Fredericksburg last night. Jeff. Davis, Longstreet, and Lee at Orange Court-House.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant CAMP:

Contrabands and deserters report enemy's cavalry collecting for a raid on our right. Look sharp for them, but report only what you see.

NORTON.

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MARCH 18, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Lieutenant MCCLOSKEY,
*Pony Mountain:*

It is reported that the enemy is crossing at Raccoon Ford. Can you see anything of them?

NORTON.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 18, 1864—3.25 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Can see very little of the river. Will keep a good watch that way. Have seen nothing of them.

McCLOSKEY.

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MARCH 18, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Captain TAYLOR,
*Stony Mountain:*

It is reported that the enemy are crossing at Raccoon Ford. Is it so? Report at once.

NORTON.

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 18, 1864—3.35 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Can see nothing of them.

TAYLOR.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON:

The commanding general directs that you at once place your command under arms and hold it prepared to move at a moment's notice. It is reported that the enemy is crossing at Raccoon Ford.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

(Copy to Generals Warren, French, and Sedgwick.)

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HEADQUARTERS, *March* 18, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. NEWTON, *Commanding First Army Corps:*

The report that the enemy was crossing the river at noon to-day does not appear to have been well founded. I am therefore directed by the commanding general to say that the instructions requiring you to hold your command in readiness to move at short notice with three days' rations may be regarded as revoked.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

(Copy to Generals Warren, French, and Sedgwick.)

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GARNETT'S, *March* 18, 1864.

General NEWTON:

Enemy's camp smokes much heavier than usual. Can see nothing beyond their pickets.

CAMP.

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

Colonel Smyth, commanding Second Brigade, Third Division, of this corps, advanced at Stony Mountain, reports that he is informed by the cavalry on his front that the enemy have crossed with cavalry at Raccoon Ford, and that their infantry appears to be preparing to cross, and that skirmishing has taken place. Colonel Smyth's brigade is under arms.

F. A. WALKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864.

Capt. GEORGE P. CORTS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Second Army Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that a few rebel cavalry and infantry made their appearance to-day on this side of the Rapidan River, on the right of my lines, between Morton's Ford and Raccoon Ford, but have now retired. I don't think it will amount to anything.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
THOS. A. SMYTH,
*Colonel First Delaware Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.*

[Indorsements.]

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the major-general commanding.

ALEX. HAYS,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*March* 19, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

It was on this kind of information that Lieutenant-Colonel Walker's dispatch was sent yesterday. Colonel Smyth must have been deceived by his informants, as the investigation made by Lieutenant Roebling, of my staff, did not find that the enemy had made any unusual demonstration. He also states that the earth-works opposite us, at Raccoon Ford, have not been much increased of late.

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that information has been received to the effect that the enemy's cavalry is concentrating at Hamilton's Crossing, preparatory to a raid upon the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. The commanding general therefore directs that the troops along the line of the railroad be instructed to be vigilant, and to be prepared for any demonstration the enemy may make in that quarter.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I respectfully request to be informed of the precise location of Hamilton's Crossing. I am under the impression that it is down near Falmouth. If this be true, and the enemy intend crossing at that point, I would suggest the propriety of sending a party of cavalry to cross at Kelly's Ford and go down toward Hartwood Church, to watch the road in that vicinity. I send herewith, for the information of the major-general commanding, a note just received from Colonel Hayes, commanding the brigade at Rappahannock Station. As I have but a small force of cavalry serving with the corps, I will be glad if some troops of that arm can be sent as suggested above. What cavalry I have is already employed in guarding the flanks of the road.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

GENERAL: I have signed the within for the general, as he is ill.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date to Major-General Humphreys. Hamilton's Crossing is on the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad, about 2 miles from the former place. General Kilpatrick, commanding Third Cavalry Division, has been ordered to send a detachment to Grove Church for the purpose of watching the river as far down as Falmouth, and to give timely notice of any movements of the enemy in that quarter. The Cavalry Corps has been instructed to prepare to move at short notice to any point where the enemy may make his appearance.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MARCH 18, 1864—2 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Information from a contraband this morning confirms previous reports of a contemplated raid by enemy's cavalry. It would, perhaps, be well to have a few cars at some central point, with an engine, ready to throw re-enforcements rapidly to any part of your line that may be attacked. Confer with superintendent military railroad at Alexandria on this point.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CIRCULAR, No. 20.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864.

Additional information confirms the purpose of the enemy to make a raid on the railroad. Division commanders will renew their vigilance and hold ready 1,000 men each, to be thrown to any point on the line that may be attacked. If the cars can be obtained, they will be stationed at Rappahannock, Warrenton Junction, and Bristoe for this purpose, and will be under the control of the commanding officer at those points. Should the road be interfered with, information will at once be sent to these headquarters and to division commanders direct, and any information of the strength and intention of the enemy that can be obtained. Division commanders will throw their re-enforcements at once to the threatened point, without waiting instructions from these headquarters. Cavalry patrols will

be sent out and kept out night and day until further orders. Those troops nearest the railroad will be sent on the cars. Each division commander will be held responsible for the protection of the part of the road intrusted to him, and must take every possible measure to gain information of the enemy's approach, in order to be ready for him.

By command of Major-General Sykes:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WARRENTON JUNCTION, *March* 18, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have had a cavalry scout stationed at Bristersburg since daybreak, and one at Mr. Britten's. Cannot some of the cavalry which has been passing, say 1,000, be sent here? I am able to gain information sometimes ahead of the rail. The cavalry at Bristersburg report that a column of smoke, apparently from the camp of a regiment or two, was seen early this morning at Union Church, on the Brentsville and Dumfries road, a few miles from Brentsville. Nothing more has been seen during the day.

R. B. AYRES,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

A contraband arriving this morning confirms the report of a contemplated cavalry raid by the enemy. Stuart is said to be collecting his cavalry at Fredericksburg and Charlottesville with a view, it is presumed, of operating on both flanks.

The commanding general directs you to instruct your division commanders to hold their commands in readiness to move at short notice, leaving sufficient force to hold their picket-lines as now occupied, or rather leaving sufficient cavalry in front of the infantry to watch and notify the latter of the approach of any force. General Gregg has already been directed to send a force toward Hartwood Church to watch any movement on our left flank. General Merritt should be instructed to throw out a force to watch and report any movement on our right flank. It would be well if General Merritt could occupy Thoroughfare Mountain and establish a signal office there. Every effort must be made to leave as soon as possible in case any movement should be made, so that your command, if moved, may be moved in such direction as will be likely to check and defeat the enemy.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The following just received:

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

Mr. Roebling has just returned from the Rapidan. No enemy on this side; only a few men, not more than 20, came over the river this morning, and all went back. Two shots were all the skirmishing.

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 18, 1864—7 p. m.

[Col. C. R. SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*]

COLONEL: Your communication just received. I have given Colonels Devin and Chapman orders this morning to explore the country constantly well out to the front of their positions toward Sperryville and James City. I will occupy Thoroughfare Mountain to-morrow with signal station, provided a signal officer is furnished. It will scarcely be safe with the force I can send (not more than 100 men) to occupy it for more than temporary observation each day. Understand, I can send more than 100 men to occupy it, but submit if the object obtained in occupying it permanently is sufficiently great to justify a greater reduction of my command by such detail. Please telegraph if this meets the major-general's approval. A party sent out in that way each day would serve the double purpose of a scout and protect the signal officer too. I think it would be safe. Large fires are seen beyond us to the west; some apparently beyond a spur of the mountains. I will send out force immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

P. S.—My signal officer is on leave.

W. M.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the major-general commanding.

Can a signal officer be sent to General Merritt until his own returns?

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. PLEASONTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Merritt's note of 7 p. m. this evening, herewith, has been laid before the major-general commanding, who approves the plan therein proposed of establishing a signal station on Thoroughfare Mountain. A signal officer has been ordered to report to General Merritt early to-morrow morning. The commanding general directs that General Merritt throw a force well to the west, so as to ascertain if possible the signification of the large fires alluded to by him. It is of the highest importance that the commanding general should have timely notice of any movements of the enemy on the flanks of the army.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
*Cavalry Corps:*

The commanding general desires to see you at his headquarters as soon as practicable.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Brigadier-General and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Culpeper, March* 18, 1864.

Capt. F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

Colonel Gibbs reports contrabands coming into infantry lines, who say the rebels are preparing for a raid with the intent to demonstrate on our right flank, while Stuart crosses the river below on the left flank of the army. General Ewell's corps has furnished a number of picked infantry to move with Stuart toward Fredericksburg. Lee was at Charlottesville night before last (Wednesday). Similar information was forwarded by General Newton to army headquarters.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 18, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
*Commanding First Cavalry Division:*

The major-general commanding approves the plan proposed of establishing a signal station on Thoroughfare Mountain. A signal officer has been ordered to report to you early in the morning. The general commanding directs that you throw a force well out to ascer-

tain, if possible, the signification of the large fires mentioned in your dispatch. It is of the highest importance that the commanding general should have timely notice of every movement of the enemy on the flank of the army.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

Answer when received, and direct your dispatches to me, noting time they were sent.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Culpeper, March* 18, 1864.

Capt. F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

Reserve Brigade reports all quiet on the picket-line. The enemy crossed 75 men at Raccoon Ford and at once withdrew.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Culpeper, March* 18, 1864.

Capt. F. C. NEWHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

Telegram just received from Colonel Gibbs, commanding Cavalry Reserve Brigade, states that from information received from his whole picket-line and scouts toward Robertson River all is quiet up to 6.30 p. m.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 18, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at short notice, leaving sufficient force to hold your picket-line as now occupied, or rather leaving sufficient cavalry in front of the infantry to watch, and notify the latter of the approach of any force. Stuart is said to be collecting his cavalry at Fredericksburg and Charlottesville, with a view, it is presumed, of operating on both flanks. Direct Colonel Bryan to send a force toward Hartwood Church to watch any movements on our left flank.

If Colonel Bryan has not a sufficient force re-enforce him still more. Every effort must be made to learn as soon as possible in case any movement should be made, so that your command, if moved, may move in such direction as will be likely to check and defeat the enemy.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

Your dispatch received. Direct Colonel Bryan to catch all the bushwhackers he can and hang them.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 18, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Colonel Bryan has forwarded 6 men, two of whom are scouts; they will reach you this p. m., together with passes and papers found on them. Colonel Bryan reports the country full of bushwhackers. No official information of the enemy being on the north side of the Rappahannock.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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ALEXANDRIA, *March* 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I have the following information from a party who left the rebel lines on Monday night: There is a light picket of cavalry at long intervals from Orange Court-House to Madison Court-House, and thence to Robertson's Church, and but very little cavalry to be met or seen elsewhere. Three and a half brigades of cavalry were sent to Louisa and Spotsylvania Court-House two days after Kilpatrick's raid, and had not returned on Monday last. It is rumored, he says, that there is considerable cavalry near Fredericksburg.

Respectfully,

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., March* 18, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: The following has been received from Martinsburg, Va., and respectfully forwarded for the information of the general commanding the department:

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, Va., March* 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the arrival to-day of 3 refugees from Staunton. They report that Rosser has gone to Gordonsville to join Lee; that Early is no longer in that region; that there is nothing in Staunton but a provost guard; that Imboden only is in the valley, and, with Gilmor and Mosby, has not more than 2,000 men. They say that Staunton is regarded as second in importance only to Richmond, the supply for Lee's army coming in a great measure from the valley, and that if the commissary stores there were seized, the bridge burnt, and railroad torn up, so as to sever communication, it would be fatal. They report a raid contemplated some days since to throw the train containing Kilpatrick's horses off the track; they report great scarcity of provisions. Rebel meat rations are 1 pound to 8 men; forage mostly gone; cattle, what there are, in very bad condition—meat fairly blue after being killed; that the scarcity is so great that Lee's army must break into our lines or starve; that there is much discontent among the soldiers and desire to desert at the first opportunity; that there are very many loyal men in the valley who pray for the Union army to come in; that the force which went up the valley last greatly strengthened the Union sentiment by their good treatment of the inhabitants. They obtained a pass to Strasburg and thence came through without difficulty. They heard Gilmor was wounded, but saw him last night in Winchester on horseback. A supper was given him there last night. He came into Winches-

ter immediately after our forces left. Citizens say Gilmor got no booty this last raid and lost 15 men. It is reported that Imboden has been ordered to report to Lee. Their names are Gabriel Hirsch, Mrs. Lizzie Hirsch, and Lizzie Haggaden. They are very fearful lest their names shall be mentioned, as Mrs. Hirsch leaves three children behind.

WM. M. BOONE,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

I remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *March* 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

Before withdrawing your infantry from Halltown ascertain from General Averell his arrangement of the pickets. Copy of your dispatch sent to General Averell.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *March* 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

The following received from Brigadier-General Sullivan. Please arrange with him as to the pickets and report your action.

HARPER'S FERRY, *March* 18, 1864.

Captain MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I forward for the information of the general commanding the following note sent by Colonel Taylor, commanding brigade of cavalry at Halltown:

"I shall be compelled to fall back to Harper's Ferry with the small force of infantry I have at Halltown. The cavalry pickets are relieved. We have no orders to furnish cavalry pickets for infantry from division headquarters.

"R. F. TAYLOR,
"*Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Brigade.*"

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 18, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Cumberland:*

The Fifth West Virginia Cavalry has been ordered and will start to-morrow morning, the mounted men to march and the dismounted to go by rail.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

I will send an officer to Cumberland to-night to explain about pickets.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

WASHINGTON, *March* 18, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

The transfer of artillery to infantry, &c., produces dissatisfaction in the States and among volunteers. The chief of artillery has recommended that the surplus artillery recruits be detached for service in the field batteries as required. Can you not use them in that way in your department?

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, March* 18, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

Howard says Ford's Bridge is a strong new bridge lately built by the rebels between Bottom's Bridge and McClellan's pole bridge, on the Chickahominy. Meade's scout will be sent you as soon as he arrives.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 19, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Louisville or Nashville:*

From all information received it is thought that Longstreet is now with Lee, and that some movement will soon be made.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, *March* 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Your dispatch was received last night at 1.30 a. m. A reconnaissance was sent out yesterday evening as soon as your letter by staff officer was received, with instructions to move to Russell's Ford and from there toward Sperryville, scouring the country thoroughly. The officer was instructed in reference to discovering cause of fire, &c. He was ordered to send in information, if important, in advance of his return. No news yet.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CULPEPER, *March* 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Reconnaissance sent out last night went to Russell's Ford, near Madison Court-House, and from there toward Sperryville about 8

miles. Saw no enemy, save as usual guarding fords on the Rapidan, nor signs of any. The officer is convinced that there are no troops this side of the mountains in that direction. All quiet on the lines.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CULPEPER, *March* 19, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Lieutenant Clarke, signal officer, reports as follows:

Arrived safe at Thoroughfare. Saw no enemy on the road except a few stragglers. None left about Madison Court-House, or on any of the roads leading thereto. Pickets appear to be about as usual on the Robertson River. Everything very quiet. Left mountain at 5 p. m.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *March* 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR:

It has been reported to me that Stuart made an attack at Bristoe about 11 o'clock this morning, and was repulsed. Firing was heard in that direction at Sangster's Station.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, *March* 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Your telegram just received. Please send one light artillery battery to report at Fort Ethan Allen; one across the Long Bridge, to be stationed in a battery; one at the intersection of these defenses and the Columbia pike, and the colored regiment ordered to support it; one to report at Fort Weed, and another at the headquarters of the Second Connecticut, just beyond Fort Ellsworth. If I am informed when these batteries will leave their camp, I will have officers to meet the three latter to conduct them. There should be a squadron of cavalry at Fort Ethan Allen, one at these headquarters, and one at Fort Lyon, to patrol in front of the line of defenses.

Respectfully, yours,

G. A. DE RUSSY,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., March* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General U. S. Army:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to represent that there is a great necessity in my division for several officers to command brigades. With the best officers and men and abundant supplies it is a task which allows but little rest to the division commander to march,

fight, and take proper care of a cavalry division. With every assistance, he can only approximate to the results which he labors to attain. My brigade commanders have neither the rank nor the experience required to fit them for the important duties that are devolved upon them; duties which are the more onerous because of the inefficiency of their subordinates. The results are want of discipline, neglect of duty, and waste of precious time and valuable material thus far, and I have apprehensions of more serious results in future. In former times years were considered necessary to bring a new cavalry regiment to a serviceable condition; latterly an assemblage of men from all classes and conditions of civil life are as soon as mounted upon horses called cavalry, and expected to perform the duties that legitimately belong to that arm. More especially in cavalry than in any other arm does everything depend on the officers, who should be energetic, industrious, intelligent, and persevering. I regret to say that in my command where one can be found making progress a dozen can be seen standing still. I have the honor to request that Col. John B. McIntosh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, and Col. Horace B. Sargent, First Massachusetts Cavalry, be appointed brigadier-generals, and ordered to report to me for duty.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *March* 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

About 40 rebels made a dash into Bath and captured the Union League representatives, among them Wheat and Bechtal. The rebels left on the Winchester pike. They may follow the road to Winchester or other roads. Do all that you can to intercept them. They can probably be met between Shanghai and North River.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *March* 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding Division, Harper's Ferry:*

General Averell reports to me that he has established a picket-line under Colonel Taylor in your front before Halltown; I therefore do not think it necessary that you withdraw your troops from Halltown, unless you are sure that you cannot rely on Colonel Taylor's outposts. In case you withdraw your troops from Halltown you will please inform General Averell.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March* 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Your communication of the 17th is received, also the statement of the refugee from Salisbury. These statements I am

glad to examine, as they shed more or less light upon affairs in rebeldom. Probably there is a force of about 6,000 or 7,000 at Kinston. The force at Wilmington is, in round numbers, 6,000. There are troops at Weldon and Greenville. Colonel McChesney was here a few days since, and he thinks there are some 3,000 or 4,000 at Greenville, with nine companies of cavalry 8 miles from Washington.

The Sixth North Carolina Cavalry has arrived from Longstreet's army near Bristol, and has about 600 men. General Corse, with his brigade, also came from Longstreet and was at Goldsborough, but I cannot learn where he is now; possibly at Greenville.

I cut the following out not knowing whether it is correct or not:

LONGSTREET'S MOVEMENTS.

LOUISVILLE, *March* 12, 1864.

The Democrat has information from an officer who left Knoxville on the 6th instant that General Longstreet had sent his wagon train to Richmond, and was mounting his entire force, and that the general impression at Knoxville was that Longstreet had been ordered to North Carolina.

Colonel Starr is chief of artillery at Kinston, and has thirty-six field guns. Some of his batteries are at Greenville and Kenansville.

Yesterday I had the honor to address you in relation to the iron sent from Wilmington and Atlanta for the rams.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 20, 1864.

*Effective strength.*

| Division. | Regiments. | Officers. | Men. |
|---|---|---|---|
| First | 12 | 126 | 3,033 |
| Second | 10 | 149 | 3,566 |
| Third | 8 | 103 | 2,853 |
| Total | 30 | 378 | 9,452 |

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Culpeper, March* 20, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The signal officer from Thoroughfare Mountain reports no visible changes since last report. Small column of dust near Stanardsville; all quiet. A reconnaissance from Second Brigade went to Woodville to-day, thence to Mud pike or Winchester road, and returned. Nothing new seen or heard. All quiet along the line.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 20, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Lieutenant-Colonel Brinton has just arrived from Colonel Bryan's command and brings 5 more prisoners, whom I will forward with re-

ports and charges to-morrow morning. Lieutenant-Colonel Brinton was delayed by an attack by scouts on his patrol; lost 2 horses killed and 1 man wounded. Colonel Bryan reports that after scouting the country from Grove Church to beyond Hartwood Church and from United States Ford up the river to our line of pickets, he can find no force of the enemy on north side of the Rappahannock and has not been able to obtain any evidence that the enemy are massing any force about Fredericksburg. Colonel Bryan has destroyed two rafts and one boat used by scouts on the river.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 20, 1864.
(Received 4.45 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CULLUM,
*Chief of Staff, Washington:*

The latest information from the Kanawha, from Beverly, and from Martinsburg is of no special importance, except that last night 40 rebels dashed into Bath, Morgan County, W. Va., and captured two members of the West Virginia Legislature, Mr. Wheat and Mr. Bechtal. The rebel party retired on the Winchester road. Cavalry was sent from General Averell's command to intercept them. I would be glad to be informed whether Leesburg is occupied by General Augur's troops, and whether I have to take care of Loudoun County, Va. A special report relative to the whole condition of military affairs in this department will be forwarded as soon as possible

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

SIR: The general commanding department requests that you will organize 60 men, rank and file, with the proper officers and non-commissioned officers, as an engineer company for service with your division. The officers and men will be detailed from the regiments composing your division and will be selected with reference to their skill as mechanics. They will be borne upon the rolls and returns of their regiments as upon detached service. The company will be kept well supplied with the tools necessary for the construction and destruction of roads, bridges, earth-works, &c., by requisition upon the chief engineer of the department. Upon the completion of the organization of the company, the commanding officers will report by letter to these, through your, headquarters.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

(Copies to Brig. Gen. George Crook, commanding Third Division, and Col. J. A. Mulligan, commanding Second Division.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Commanding Division, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of 17th instant, stating that, owing to the absence of veterans who are on furlough from your command, the force now within the lines of your division is, in your judgment, inadequate to garrison Maryland Heights and vicinity, I am directed to state that it is impracticable at this time to furnish an additional force from any other portion of the department. The general commanding will, however, endeavor to have other troops sent within the department at an early day for duty in your command.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL,
*Commanding Division, Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

GENERAL: The general commanding requests that you will organize for your division a platoon of mounted pioneers. It will be composed of 30 men, rank and file, with the proper officers. They will be detailed from the regiments under your command, and will be selected for their skill as mechanics. They will be borne upon the rolls and returns of their regiments as upon detached service, and will be kept well supplied with the tools and materials necessary for the construction and destruction of roads, bridges, &c., by requisition upon the chief engineer of the department. Upon the completion of this organization the officer commanding it will report by letter to these, through your, headquarters.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

General Averell is so ill that the surgeons forbid my showing him your dispatch. I have telegraphed the substance of it to Colonel Taylor, at Halltown, and notified our own pickets.

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 20, 1864.

Col. R. F. TAYLOR.
*Halltown:*

The following dispatch just received:

W. P. Smith, of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, telegraphs from Baltimore that Stuart is on a raid northward, and had a fight at Bristoe, near Manassas, to-day.

SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

Have you any information? Keep on the lookout and ready for a move, if it should be necessary.

By order of Brigadier-General Averell:

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HALLTOWN, *March* 20, 1864.

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I learn from deserters that Mosby starts to-night or to-morrow on a raid. He intends going in the direction of Shepherdstown. Imboden is in the vicinity of Winchester.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 20, 1864.

Col. R. F. TAYLOR,
*Halltown:*

Please keep me advised of Mosby's movements and force, and send information to this place promptly. Perhaps he can be caught. Patrols to Winchester have not yet reported. Will inform you if they bring any news. All quiet this morning.

By order:

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 20, 1864.

Captain MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cumberland:*

Colonel Taylor, at Halltown, reports that all is quiet in front. Scouts can hear of no enemy. All quiet in our front.

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Halltown, Va., March* 20, 1864.

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CAPTAIN: We have no information of any movement in our front. I heard yesterday from Millwood. Go on a scout to-day up the river,

to try to find some one crossing from the south. Will send you any information of importance as soon as received. There is no clothing here for soldiers. I have no doubt that clothing down there can be receipted for by company commanders upon their return. I understand that the First New York comes back to-morrow.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JESSE F. WYCKOFF,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. 1ST CAV. BRIG., 4TH DIV., DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Beverly, W. Va., March 20, 1864.*

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*A. A. G., 4th Div., Dept. of W. Va., Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that last night, March 19, the horses were taken by a party of rebels from the farmers living on and near the Philippi road, from Leadsville up to within 4 miles of my pickets, and within 1 mile of the round barn, where a wagon train was encamped with a strong escort. I sent a detachment out to try to intercept the rebels, but it is two legs after four. I am without cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. MOOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 20, 1864*—2.40 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

The Secretary of War consents to the organization of an infantry regiment out of the surplus men in the Third Pennnsylvania Artillery. Report the organization to the Adjutant-General of the Army, in order that the Governor of Pennsylvania may be called upon to give the regiment a number and appoint its officers.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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MARCH 20, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

My cavalry and artillery just returned by land. Their prisoners were turned over to General Graham. Infantry not arrived.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 20, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: On the 17th General Wessells wrote that he thought a combined attack was in contemplation before or about April 1.

On yesterday he writes again, and intimates that something is going on above, with designs upon Plymouth. Besides the ram, there is reported an octagonal floating battery as an auxiliary.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 20, 1864.*

Brigadier-General WESSELLS,
*Comdg. Sub-dist. of the Albemarle, Plymouth, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Your communication of the 17th is just received, concerning the enemy's movements and probable designs on Plymouth. Without a naval force they might as well attack Fort Monroe. Demonstrations may be made, but no serious operations. We all are well advised of the work on the ram and of numerous shipments of iron from Wilmington and Atlanta. Why there should be any delay on the obstructions is something I do not understand. If we delay until their rams are ready then we shall assume a tremendous risk. I supposed your hulks were down above the Thoroughfare, as the Board agreed upon. No time is to be lost in putting them in position. The only hulk here, which came from Norfolk, I send at once in tow by the Roanoke steamer. Our spaces are filled up by cribs of timber, which are very strong, and by piles, many of which are 42 feet in length. You will find it will work well to adopt something of this kind. Our line here is more than twice the length of yours, and it is done and safe. But a short time has been consumed in its construction, and all feel very confident that the ram at Kinston, which is all ready, cannot break through.

If the ram can get down the Roanoke, it is not impossible that you will be attacked. Most likely the ram will pass down Ryan's Thoroughfare and come up to Plymouth. In that event, of what use is the 100-pounder rifle in Fort Gray? In my opinion, the 200-pounder will settle the ram if it comes down stream, and your 100-pounder can be advantageously moved to your other flank, where it would do tremendous execution on that narrow river. Please look this over and see if the change would not materially strengthen your general system of defense. If you so decide, make the change, advising me.

Refugees from Wilmington, who have been in the foundry for about three years, have just escaped and confirm your spy's report of the shipment of iron from that place for both rams.

I have deemed it best to send Colonel Dutton, of the Engineers and chief of staff, to look the ground over with you, and to carry out such veiws as may seem best, after full consultation and consideration.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March 21, 1864.*

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The commanding general has no information respecting the raid said to be contemplated by the enemy, other than that already com-

municated to you. The general thinks, however, that three engines and thirty cars had better be returned to the railroad authorities, and he wishes you to return them. The engine and ten cars to be retained you will locate at such points as you may consider best.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 21, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

You will receive early this morning 5 more prisoners, papers, and reports from Colonel Bryan. He reports no enemy west of the Rappahannock. My scouts confirm this report. No force near Fredericksburg save cavalry. Stuart is simply collecting his people from furlough; ordered to return on the 15th of this month. Colonel Bryan's command needs rest. I would respectfully suggest that he be ordered to return at the earliest practicable moment.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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OFFICE OF INSPECTOR OF ARTILLERY,
*Washington, March* 21, 1864.

General THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General U. S. Army:*

GENERAL: In obedience to instructions from Major-General Halleck, of the 18th instant, requiring me to report "what detachments can advantageously be made from the artillery regiments in the defenses of Washington to be organized into batteries for service in the field, and how soon such batteries can be prepared for service," I have the honor to submit the following report:

The entire artillery armament of the covering line of defense south of the Potomac consists of 450 guns. The full fighting complement of effective artillerymen required for this armament would be 9,450 men. The effective strength of artillerymen now on this portion of the line is 7,988 men, being 1,462 below the full complement.

The entire artillery armament of the covering line of defense north of the Potomac consists of 410 guns. The full fighting complement of artillerymen required for this armament would be 8,610 effective men. The effective strength of artillerymen now on the portion of the covering line north of the Potomac is 7,587 men, being 1,023 men below the full fighting complement.

The Potomac River dividing the covering line would not render liable to a serious attack at the same time those portions of the line on the north and south sides of the river. I am of the opinion that the force on either side of the river could be thrown to the opposite side in less time than an attacking force could change its point of attack from one side of the river to the other. But from the character of the place covered the covering line has no moral strength unconnected with its fighting strength. The full fighting strength of the south side and the moral strength of the whole covering line might be retained by reducing the full fighting complement of the

covering line on the north side to one-half, and holding a like portion of the full complement of the southern side available to re-enforce the north side as occasion might require. This arrangement would allow a reduction of the full complement of the whole line of 4,305 men, or a reduction of 1,810 men from the strength now on the line. The expediency or advantage of thus reducing the effective strength of any portion of the line below its full fighting complement would depend, of course, upon the relation which the covering line bore to the operations outside of it. On this point I am not advised.

There are four of the heavy artillery regiments now on the covering line, numbering some 6,330 effective men, sufficient to man forty-four field batteries, 274 guns, that should or ought to be able to become, in fifteen days from the time they were furnished with guns and horses, efficient to do fair light artillery service in the field in connection with batteries that have seen service.

The number of field batteries now on hand in the ordnance department is eleven, and being increased at the rate of one gun per day. The quartermaster's department has now some 400 artillery horses, and the number being received average about 20 per day.

If it should be deemed advisable to withdraw any portion of the artillery force now on the covering line, I recommend that an equal force from the Reserve Corps be at once instructed in the duties of heavy artillery.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. HOWE,

*Brigadier-General, Inspector of Artillery.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Commanding Division, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 18th instant, and to return his thanks for the promptness with which it was forwarded. The valuable information it contains will aid materially in the conduct of the military affairs of this command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[W. I. MATHEWS,]

*Captain and Aide-de-Camp.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 21, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Division, New Creek:*

Information is received that a regiment of rebel cavalry was this side of Wardensville yesterday morning, and it is probable that they will attack some point on the railroad between Patterson's Creek and Great Cacapon. Send, therefore, a cavalry force from Burlington to Romney to-night to look out for them.

F. SIGEL,

*Major-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *March* 21, 1864.

Captain RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Information is received that one or two regiments of cavalry have been this side (north) of Wardensville, yesterday morning, and it is probable that they will make a movement through the country between Back Creek and Patterson's Creek. Keep your scouting parties well out toward Romney and act promptly in that direction if the enemy should move in the direction mentioned.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 21, 1864.

Captain RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Keep the country between Back Creek and Great Cacapon well scoured at present until I can make a better arrangement. Answer.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 21, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

Scouts have been sent every day to Bloomery Gap. Will direct them to go to Cacapon River.

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Have directed scout to go to South River and to Cold Spring Gap, on Wardensville road.

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 21, 1864.

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Martinsburg:*

I have received mail matter from your headquarters, sent by messenger, and send some little in return. The proposed arrangement is concurred in by the general commanding.

The general is pleased to hear of the decided improvement in General Averell's health. In the wishes for his speedy recovery I heartily join. The Fifth West Virginia Cavalry will be retained for the present at or about these headquarters and will be relieved from further duty with the Fourth Division. Orders to this effect will be issued to-morrow. I see you have changed the name of your division. Why? The general commanding thinks the old name had

better be retained for the present and until the infantry of your command are transferred. I write hurriedly, as the train is about due.

Very truly and respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

The general commanding desired me to suggest that as there is no cavalry between Back Creek and Patterson's Creek, that section should be pretty thoroughly scouted, so that no attempt could, without your knowledge, be made against the railroad. I believe, though, he telegraphed this in effect during the evening.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 21, 1864.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE:

I send inclosed a copy of statement* made to me by a reliable young man whom I sent to Hamilton, N. C., and who has just returned. I shall send a copy of the statement to the commanding officer at Plymouth, with directions to communicate it to the naval commander there. Why cannot we organize a little expedition to burn the iron-clad? It is only 20 miles from Plymouth.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Commanding District of North Carolina*:

GENERAL: I send you a copy* of the latest and what I believe to be reliable information in regard to the iron-clad at Plymouth. I think if the navy cannot go up with their gun-boats and destroy it, that you had better organize a little expedition by land. A single regiment of cavalry would do it, and it is only four hours' ride. You have transportation enough in two days to get them to Portsmouth. How would it do to send up the Bombshell?

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 22, 1864.

1. The attention of corps and other independent commanders is called to the very large number of officers and enlisted men borne on the reports and returns of this army as "on special, extra, or daily duty," and "on detached service within the limits of the army."

* Not found.

It is believed that in numerous instances officers and men are so accounted for when they should be reported as "present for duty." It is therefore made the especial duty of all officers of the inspector-general's department to at once make a thorough examination into the various kinds of extra service performed by the officers and men included in the two classes enumerated, and they will report to the commander with whom they may be serving all cases in which the troops are erroneously accounted for.

2. Hereafter, all officers and enlisted men who may be on any detached duty or sick, within the limits of an army corps or other independent command, will be accounted for on the reports and returns of such corps or command as present on "special, extra, or daily duty," or as present "sick."

3. Attention is also directed to the discrepancies between the number of officers and men reported "present for duty," and the number of troops reported "present for duty equipped." If any of the troops are not in all respects equipped for active service, measures will be taken at once to have deficiencies promptly supplied.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 22, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

A party of about 30 of the enemy is throwing up rifle-pits near the river above Raccoon Ford. Large fires on Clark's Mountain this a. m. All quiet.

WARTS,
*Signal Officer.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 22, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

All quiet. The enemy are enlarging the works at fords, and constructing a new line on the hill in front of Raccoon Ford. About 150 men at work.

McCLOSKEY.

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *March* 22, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

The enemy's camps show no change. No movements of cavalry between the Rapidan and Robertson. No change in enemy's pickets.

CASTLE.

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THOROUGHFARE MOUNTAIN, *March* 22, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Saw two small patrol parties in Madison Court-House and one on the Sperryville pike. None of them numbered more than 8 men. Enemy's picket on Robertson River remain unchanged. Storm

coming on about 2 p. m. compelled me to leave the mountain. Should the present weather continue I do not think it necessary to detail an escort to-morrow, as observation will be impossible.

G. J. CLARKE.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 22, 1864.

Major-General SYKES:

I have ordered General Gregg to send a force of cavalry to Fant's Mill and to scour the country on the north bank of the Rappahannock in that direction, and report any movement of the enemy. General Gregg's force has started from Warrenton.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Culpeper, March* 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The signal party at Thoroughfare Mountain report nothing unusual to-day. Small patrols of the enemy at Madison Court-House. Enemy's pickets on Robertson, as usual.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 22, 1864.

General GREGG,
*Warrenton:*

The major-general commanding directs that you send a force of cavalry toward Fant's Mill and to scour the country in that direction. General Sykes reports that some forty of the enemy's cavalry approached his picket-line between Fant's and Dulaney's Mills this morning about 1 a. m. Please acknowledge receipt of this.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.*

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HEADQUARTERS TENTH NEW YORK CAVALRY,
*March* 22, 1864.

Lieut. JOHN B. MAITLAND,
*Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 2d Brig., 2d Div., Cav. Corps:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I scouted the country thoroughly between our lines and our infantry picket-lines this side of the river. I learned nothing of the enemy until I reached a point opposite Fox's Ford, where I found one of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiment, who informed me that his regiment had a sharp skirmish with a small party of the enemy last night. About three-fourths of a mile farther I came to our infantry picket-line and saw the brigade officer of the day, from whom I learned that an infantry scouting party had been to Sulphur Springs

to-day; also a cavalry scouting party was out in the same direction. They saw nothing, but learned that a small force of the enemy crossed the river at Fox's Ford from this side during last night. Our infantry picket-line extends to Freeman's Ford. There is no such mill as Dulaney's, but a family of that name live near Fant's. The headquarters of the officer in charge of infantry pickets is at Dulaney's house. I reached camp on my return at 9 o'clock p. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. B. PORTER,
*Captain, Commanding Scouting Party.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *March* 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR:

I have the honor to report that the detachment of cavalry sent out on the 19th instant to scout the country toward Leesburg returned yesterday afternoon, bringing in 2 prisoners belonging to Stuart's cavalry and 11 supposed to belong to Mosby's and White's commands. The detachment sent to the line of Occoquan has not yet returned. One prisoner, however, a conscript, was sent in from that detachment last evening, having a pass for fifteen days, dated Lynchburg, March 15. There are no indications of any enemy in any direction, and I propose to call in all scouting parties for the present. The prisoners have all but one been sent to Alexandria.

Respectfully,

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March* 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

At the time of the recent cavalry demonstration from the Army of the Potomac, Rosser left Waynesborough, in the valley, with his available mounted force, and went in haste toward Orange Court-House. His train, consisting of thirty wagons, was left behind, with many disabled horses, which constantly accumulated by the return of those broken down in crossing the mountains. The train went, on the 16th, toward Rockbridge County for supplies, the country about Waynesborough and Timberville having been exhausted. Since that the signal station on Cedar Mountain reported rebels breaking up camp in front, burning tents, &c. A rebel lieutenant (deserter) stated, on the 19th, that on the 12th Rosser was near Gordonsville with marching orders. A deserter to-day states that on the 15th Major Bell, rebel quartermaster, stated at Waynesborough that Rosser would return or was returning to his train. Deserter is of the opinion that Rosser cannot move before middle of next month, owing to the disabled condition of his command. Imboden was camped 4 miles above Harrisonburg. I think that the rebels are relying greatly upon the rebel conspiracy in Kentucky, and that Morgan will attempt a raid into that State, and that his movements may indicate the time that we may expect some demonstration in this direction.

I would request that the reserves to cavalry outposts now at Harper's Ferry be partially replaced by infantry, in order to save the cavalry horses as much as possible.

Very respectfully,

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March 22, 1864.*

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: Your note of yesterday was this morning received. Knowing how busy you are, I would not bore you with a reply if I did not wish to speak of the change in the name of the division. It seems to me that the change is a good one; the cavalry of this department, like the same arm in the Army of the Potomac, have been scattered and broken up until they have lost all confidence in themselves. What they need now as much as anything is a revival of their esprit de corps; they should get an idea that the arm is independent in itself, able to do anything and as worthy of special name as any other. They are already proud of the name of a cavalry division. As long as the command is so I do not see why they should not be called so, neither do I see any reason why an infantry brigade should not be attached to a cavalry division with as much propriety as a cavalry brigade to an infantry division. You will see by the heading that I have granted myself a suspension of judgment until I have had a hearing. I trust that the hearing will result in a verdict for the other side. I was opposed to changing the name at first, but since it is done don't you think it would be better to leave it as it stands? The country toward Romney has been pretty thoroughly scouted, and still is being scouted. Scouts have not gone farther as yet than North River. A scout from Burlington to hit Cacapon is worth three from this place. If we send a scout so far it must be too large to move rapidly. As I understand it, a scout from here to hit Cacapon covers the country as far as Romney. I am confident that there is no large force in that country now, but I believe that McNeill is going to haunt in old stamping ground near Moorefield, with perhaps a dash at the railroad, should he find it unprotected, which he will not, so far as we at this place can avoid it.

I hope I have not bored you with this long letter.

Very truly, yours,

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MARCH 22, 1864.

General AVERELL:

Patrol has returned from Winchester. No enemy there. There has been rebel cavalry there for several evenings previous, more or less. Two companies of rebel cavalry were on the Opequon Creek from Saturday evening until yesterday. They belonged to Major Gilmor's command.

BYERS,
*Captain, Commanding Pickets.*

HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 4TH DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Beverly, W. Va., March 22, 1864.*

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

I have the honor to report that my scouts just returned from Pocahontas. The information obtained is, Generals Echols, Jenkins, Jackson, and Rosser will move on Beverly, according to the state of the weather, between the 1st and 20th of next month. Generals Williams and John Morgan, now at Dublin Depot, to move toward Kanawha Valley. General Breckinridge is in command of the department, and inspected and reviewed the troops lately. Imboden is expected to come into this valley north of Beverly, by the Seneca road from Crab Bottom. Deserters and refugees corroborate the above statements; also intercepted rebel letters to relatives living within our lines. This is a copy of communication sent to Major-General Sigel, in accordance with his request by telegraph.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. MOOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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BEVERLY, *March 22, 1864.*

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

My scouts returned and report that Generals Echols, Jenkins, Jackson, and Rosser will move on Beverly by the first of next month. Deserters, refugees, and letters corroborate above statement. I forwarded a letter this morning with particulars.

A. MOOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March 22, 1864.*

Colonel MOOR,
*Beverly:*

Your dispatch received. I will make all preparations I can and inform you. Keep your scouts very active and report all additional information you may receive.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE CAVALRY,
*Halltown, Va., March 22, 1864.*

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the scouts sent out returned to camp last night at 8 p. m. They have scouted the country thoroughly across the valley as high as White Post; report that there is no force this side of Strasburg; bring the information that Gilmor's command is near Woodstock, and threw down a picket as far as Middletown, this side of Strasburg. Mosby's command, or part of it, were reported to have camped near Berry's Ferry, on the opposite side of the river, night before last, but did not cross. They bring in 4 prisoners and horses. Our line of pickets so far is undis-

turbed ; everything appears quiet. I would call the attention of the commanding general to our need of artillery at this point, or at least in supporting distance. I am informed that there is no artillery this side of the river but four Napoleon guns, lately moved from here.

I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant,

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding First Brigade*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. MID. DEPT., 8TH ARMY CORPS,
*Baltimore, Md., March 22, 1864.*

In obedience to General Orders, No. 97, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, March 12, 1864, I hereby assume command of the Eighth Army Corps and of the Middle Department, exclusive of Fort Delaware.

The public will join me in acknowledging the zeal and rare ability shown by my predecessor, Brig. Gen. Henry H. Lockwood, in the management of the affairs of this department.

The department, as I am painfully aware, is crowded with perplexities, and for that reason I pray all good men residing in it to unite and give me their earnest support, more for their own welfare than for mine.

LEW. WALLACE,
*Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.*

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MARCH 22, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER :

My infantry returned last night. I am about starting for Fort Magruder, whence will leave at 6 this evening if the snow keeps off. By calling in all interior pickets can only raise about 800 available cavalry sufficiently well mounted for a long march.

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 115. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, March 23, 1864.*

I. By direction of the President of the United States, the number of army corps comprising the Army of the Potomac will be reduced to three, viz, the Second, Fifth, and Sixth Corps. The troops of the other two corps, viz, the First and Third, will be temporarily organized and distributed among the Second, Fifth, and Sixth by the commanding general, who will determine what existing organizations will retain their corps badges and other distinctive marks. The staff officers of the two corps which are temporarily broken up will be assigned to vacancies in the other corps, so far as such vacancies may exist. Those for whom there are no vacancies will cease to be considered as officers of the general staff of army corps.

II. Maj. Gen. G. K. Warren is assigned by the President to the command of the Fifth Army Corps.

III. The following general officers are detached from the Army of the Potomac, and will report for orders to the Adjutant-General of

the Army, viz: Maj. Gen. George Sykes, U. S. Volunteers; Maj. Gen. W. H. French, U. S. Volunteers; Maj. Gen. John Newton, U. S. Volunteers; Brig. Gen. J. R. Kenly, U. S. Volunteers; Brig. Gen. F. B. Spinola, U. S. Volunteers; Brig. Gen. Solomon Meredith, U. S. Volunteers.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., March* 23, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Grant will be at Culpeper by to-morrow morning's train, and will, at your earliest convenience thereafter, desire to see your troops; not in review, but simply drawn up in line in front of or near their respective corps encampments.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
*Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 23, 1864—5.25 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

All quiet. Some 50 of the enemy this p. m. constructing works at Stringfellow's Ford. At Raccoon Ford they have constructed three lunettes and a line of earth-works about 100 yards long since yesterday morning.

McCLOSKEY.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 23, 1864—2.10 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

General Hancock has arrived here. He will not rejoin his headquarters to-day, and will give you timely notice when you may expect him. He does not wish you to put yourself to any inconvenience on his account.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 23, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

I am directed by the commanding general to say that as the reports of an intended raid on the part of the enemy's cavalry do not appear to be well founded, it will not be necessary for you to continue to hold your command in readiness for moving at very short notice. The commanding general directs, however, that you cause the lower fords of the Rappahannock, as far down as Falmouth, to

be constantly and carefully watched by detachments from Brigadier-General Kilpatrick's command; the country to our front and right, as far as the mountains, to be in like manner observed by detachments from Brigadier-General Merritt's command, and the country in the direction of Thoroughfare Gap, Bull Run range, to be watched from Brigadier-General Gregg's command.

Very respectfully,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

WARRENTON, *March* 23, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The scouting party sent to Fant's Mill and vicinity returned. Could not find any enemy, but learned that a small force had crossed to the south side of Fox's Ford.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
*Adjt. Gen. of the Army, War Dept., Washington, D. C.:*

SIR: Colonel Wilkinson, commanding at Clarksburg and Bulltown, reports as follows:

John L. Keyvey, a deserter from Lanahan's battalion,* of Fifteenth Virginia (rebel) Cavalry, in which he served as ordnance sergeant, makes the following statements:

"I think that John Righter is now in the northwest part of Harrison County recruiting for the rebel army. He has about 80 men and recruiting. He crosses, as a general thing, the railroad at Long Run Station, then goes by Bulltown saltworks, thence through the glades to Lewisburg. He has orders to remain there until the raid of Early, Jackson, Imboden, Rosser, Fitzhugh Lee, and Jenkins, which is to start as soon as the roads are fit. Their destination is Wheeling. They will make a feint on Beverly, while the main force, which will be 18,000 to 20,000, with five batteries, will march on the Northwestern turnpike. They will be all mounted except Early's division, which consists of three brigades of infantry. They are collecting forage at Staunton; they get it from Botetourt County. I am satisfied that they will attempt the raid as soon as the roads will permit. Early is to command the whole."

Colonel Moor, commanding at Beverly, reports:

My scouts returned, and report that Generals Echols, Jenkins, Jackson, and Rosser will move on Beverly by the 1st of next month. Letters, deserters, and refugees corroborate the above statement.

General Averell, commanding cavalry at Martinsburg, reports [22d]:

Two deserters just in report that McNeill, with 500 men, started from near Staunton for the South Branch Valley about three days ago. No force in the Shenandoah Valley except Imboden and three Georgia regiments. Pickets at Woodstock.

No information of special importance from the Kanawha Valley.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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* No such organization. Reference is probably to McClanahan's battery.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March 23, 1864.*

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Washington, D. C.:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that Brig. Gen. Max Weber, U. S. Volunteers, now, as is understood, in Washington, may be directed to report to me for assignment to duty in this department. Brigadier-General Weber is a meritorious officer, was wounded at Antietam, and is not now, as is believed, assigned to any command. In view of his efficient services and the limited number of general officers in this department, the interests of the service would probably be promoted by the assignment suggested. Such assignment would not interfere with any general officer now serving in this department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March 23, 1864.*

Colonel MULLIGAN, *New Creek:*

Your telegram received. The general commanding deems your information important, but does not wish just now any extensive cavalry expedition undertaken. For the present he desires simply the country on your front and flank well scouted, and the cavalry prepared for future important movements.

By order:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March 23, 1864.*

Capt. WILL RUMSEY, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cav. Div., Martinsburg:*

CAPTAIN: Yours of yesterday, concerning name of General Averell's division, has been submitted to the major-general commanding, who, upon reconsideration, consents that the name be changed as desired. As regularly the name of a command is only changed by the authority creating it, an order will be issued with that view. Until then the name of Cavalry Division may be used.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March 23, 1863.*

Capt. T. MELVIN, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cumberland:*

Scouts to Little Cacapon just returned. Saw no enemy. Citizens reported two commands of cavalry on Monday morning 12 miles up North River. Could trace them no farther.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

Scout in from Cacapon Springs. All quiet.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *March* 24, 1864.
(Received 2.35 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

I would respectfully suggest that the order relieving General Pleasonton from duty here, and sending him to the Department of the Missouri, be made at once. I will then direct General Meade to place the senior officer of the cavalry corps in command of it until General Sheridan arrives.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, *March* 24, 1864.
(Received 2.20 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Will you please send me a map, with lines marked, showing the territory now occupied by our forces; also a copy of the returns of the army you showed me? If practicable to spare them from their present stations, three regiments of heavy artillery, one commanded by Colonel Tidball to be one of them, could be advantageously used with the Army of the Potomac.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, March* 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I send herewith, by special messenger, a synopsis of last returns of the army; also a copy of the map* which we had before us the other day. The red lines show approximately our lines of defense at the beginning of the rebellion and at the present time; the blue the various proposed ways of shortening them.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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IN THE FIELD, CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*March* 24, 1864. (Received 4.05 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Washington, D. C.:*

I would like to have General Sigel directed to relieve Wheaton's brigade, Sixth Army Corps, and ordered here. If Terry's brigade is not absolutely needed at Sandusky I would like to have it also. According to my recollection of the forces in General Heintzelman's department, he can easily spare troops from other places to take their place.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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*See explanatory foot-note, Vol. XXXII, Part III, p. 261.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., March 24, 1864—3.45 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Army of the Potomac:*

General Burnside asks to have the Second Ohio Cavalry, now at Cincinnati and not mounted, ordered to his camp at Annapolis. This is a veteran regiment, which formerly belonged to the Army of the Ohio. Shall they be so ordered?

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March 24, 1864—10.20 p. m.*

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Your dispatch directing that Major-General Pleasonton be relieved from duty with this army was duly received. My absence at Culpeper this afternoon prevented its prompt acknowledgment.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 126. WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, March 24, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

64. The following officers, on being relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, will report as follows:

Maj. Gen. George Sykes, U. S. Volunteers, in person, to Major-General Curtis, commanding Department of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth, Kans. Maj. Gen. W. H. French, U. S. Volunteers, will repair to Philadelphia, Pa., and report by letter to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army. Maj. Gen. John Newton, U. S. Volunteers, will repair to Cincinnati, Ohio, and report to Major-General Sherman, commanding Division of the Mississippi. Brig. Gen. J. R. Kenly, U. S. Volunteers, in person, to Major-General Wallace, U. S. Volunteers, commanding Middle Department, Baltimore, Md. Brig. Gen. Solomon Meredith, U. S. Volunteers, will repair to Cairo, Ill., and report to the commanding officer at that place.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March 24, 1864.*

I. The following order has been received from the War Department:*

* * * * * * *

II. The following arrangements are made to carry out the provisions of the foregoing order:

The Second, Fifth, and Sixth Army Corps will each be consolidated into two divisions. The First and Second Divisions of the

*See General Orders, No. 115, p. 717.

Third Corps are transferred to the Second Corps, preserving their badges and distinctive marks. The Third Division of the Third Corps is transferred permanently to the Sixth Corps. The three divisions now forming the First Corps are transferred to the Fifth Corps, preserving their badges and distinctive marks, and on joining the Fifth Corps they will be consolidated into two divisions.

The commanders of the divisions transferred to the Second, Fifth, and Sixth Corps will at once report to the commanders of those corps for instructions.

Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr will report to Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, and Brig. Gen. H. Prince to Major-General Sedgwick, commanding Sixth Corps.

The chief of artillery will assign eight batteries each to the Second, Fifth, and Sixth Corps; these batteries to be taken from those now with those corps and with the First and Third Corps. The batteries with the several corps, in excess of the above allowance, will join the Artillery Reserve.

The consolidation of divisions called for in this order will be made by the corps commanders concerned, who are authorized to re-arrange the brigades of their respective commands in such manner as they may think best for the service.

The re-assignment of officers of the staff departments, consequent upon the reorganization of the army, will be made upon the nomination of the chiefs of the staff departments at these headquarters. Special instructions will be given hereafter with respect to the staff officers of the two corps temporarily broken up.

III. The major-general commanding avails himself of the occasion to say that, in view of the reduced strength of nearly all the regiments serving in this army, the temporary reduction of the number of army corps to three is a measure imperatively demanded by the best interests of the service, and that the reasons for attaching the First and Third Corps, for the time being, to other corps were in no respect founded upon any supposed inferiority of those corps to the other corps of this army. All the corps have equally proved their valor on many fields, and all have equal claims to the confidence of the Government and of the country. The First and Third Corps will retain their badges and distinctive marks, and the major-general commanding indulges the hope that the ranks of the army will be filled at an early day, so that those corps can again be reorganized.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 24, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

All quiet. About 30 of the enemy still working at Stringfellow's Ford.

McCLOSKEY.

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THOROUGHFARE MOUNTAIN, *March* 24, 1864—7 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

The atmosphere has been much clearer this p. m. than on any preceding occasion. Saw nothing in Madison Court-House. Enemy

has established a small picket reserve about 1 mile east of Madison Court-House and midway between the Robertson River and Orange Court-House road. Nothing moving on any of the roads in vicinity of Madison Court-House. Pickets on Robertson River remain unchanged. All quiet.

G. J. CLARKE,
*Signal Officer.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *March* 24, 1864.

The recent orders consolidating the several corps of the Army of the Potomac having relieved me from the command of the Third Division, First Army Corps, I cannot part with the troops that belonged to the division without expressing the kind feelings entertained by me for them.

I have seen so many soldierly qualities among you, and have received so many marks of your good will, I desire you to know that I part from comrades whom I am proud of, and from friends that it is painful to bid farewell. While in command of the division I have had but one thought and one wish—your welfare and the success of our great cause. For both I have labored honestly and zealously; for both you will ever find me a steady and earnest soldier friend.

JOHN R. KENLY,
*Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *March* 24, 1864.

The undersigned resumes command of the Second Corps.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *March* 24, 1864.

Soldiers of the Fifth Corps! By direction of the War Department, I am relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac. In obeying an order so wholly unexpected, I part from you with the profoundest regret. We have been associated together since your organization as a corps. We have shared all the campaigns of this glorious army, and for nine months it has been my pride and distinction to be your chief. The history of your achievements adds a luster to the history of your country, and in the great battle of the war, on the 2d of July, 1863, your heroism and valor indisputably saved the day. I part from you feeling assured that your manly virtues, courage, and patriotism will still be conspicuous in campaigns to come, and that the insignia borne upon your flags and worn upon your breasts will in the shock of battle always be found in the thick of your country's foes.

GEO. SYKES,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *March* 24, 1864.

I. By virtue of General Orders, No. 115, War Department, paragraph 2, March 23, 1864, republished in General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Army of the Potomac, dated March 24, 1864, the undersigned assumes command of the Fifth Army Corps.

II. The corps staff officers will perform their duties as heretofore assigned until further orders.

III. Headquarters to-morrow evening will be at Culpeper Court-House.

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. } HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS, *March* 24, 1864.

In accordance with General Orders, No. 115, War Department, March 23, 1864, and in compliance with paragraph II, General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Army of the Potomac, March 24, 1864, the following changes are ordered to take effect as soon as practicable:

The First Brigade (Shaler's), Third Division, is transferred to the First Division, and will be known as the Fourth Brigade of the First Division.

The Second Brigade (Eustis'), Third Division, is transferred to the Second Division, and will be known as the Fourth Brigade of the Second Division.

The Third Brigade (Wheaton's), Third Division, is transfered to the Second Division, and will be known as the First Brigade of the Second Division.

The commanding officers of the brigades so transferred will report as soon as practicable to their respective division commanders.

The chief quartermaster of the corps will make such assignments of transportation, and the chief ambulance officer of the corps, under the instructions of the medical director, such transfers of ambulances, medicine wagons, &c., as the changes herein directed render necessary.

The flags of the brigades transferred by this order will be sent to these headquarters to be replaced by flags to be hereafter designated in orders.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

M. T. McMAHON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. B. COMSTOCK,
*Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac, Culpeper Court-House:*

General Crook can be spared at present, but it will take at least five days to reach Culpeper, he being at Charleston. Major Rucker, of his staff, is here; is thoroughly acquainted with that country, and can give you valuable information. If you desire I will send him with some papers prepared by me at once, and will also direct General Crook to report to you, if you deem best.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General CROOK,
*Charleston:*

Prepare yourself to report in person in Washington.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding Division, Harper's Ferry:*

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that Wheaton's brigade be immediately relieved from duty in this department and sent to the Army of the Potomac. Please make immediately the necessary preparations to this effect, with the understanding that only such troops will be sent away who originally belonged to Wheaton's brigade. If you deem it necessary you may withdraw your infantry from Halltown for the defense of Harper's Ferry. Please inform me immediately what you propose to do.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 24, 1864.

Col. J. A. MULLIGAN,
*New Creek:*

COLONEL: In answer to your telegram of to-day, I would say, in addition to my answer by telegraph, that there are no cavalry forces of any importance between New Creek and Parkersburg, and that therefore, in case of a raid in that direction, much depends upon the cavalry of your division. The section of country through to Back Creek is unprotected and open to raids of the enemy. I desire that all your available force of cavalry be used for scouting and patrolling in the direction of Saint George Court-House, Moorefield, and Romney, and that parties be sent out regularly to communicate with the parties sent out from Cumberland and Martinsburg. All movements of the enemy should be closely watched in these directions. General Averell, commanding at Martinsburg, is directed to scout and patrol the country between Mills' Gap and Bloomery Gap. The Fifth Virginia Cavalry is now temporarily attached to these headquarters and stationed at Patterson's Creek to guard the southern approach to the city of Cumberland, and to scout and patrol in the direction of Bloomery Gap and Romney. By this system, and a strict attention given to it by the parties sent out, we can be always informed in time when a movement of the enemy takes place. It is intended and necessary that the parties sent out by you, by General Averell, and Colonel Latham (Fifth Virginia) should be well informed, and should try to meet and communicate with each other. To prevent conflicts, a common countersign will be issued for all the troops in the eastern and central part of the department. Your cavalry are not in as good condition as they should be. In many cases new horses are needed, for which requisitions should be made without delay. Many of the men are new recruits, and should be properly drilled. At least the minimum number should be ready

for effective operations. Until this is done, and you have more effective troops of this branch in your command, I do not deem it good policy to make any important offensive movements, except for the purpose above mentioned. I expect soon to have a chief of cavalry in this department, who will at an early day communicate further with you on this subject.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
*March* 24, 1864.

[Captain RUMSEY:]

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet on and in front of our line. I am informed that General Rosser has been ordered to Richmond with his command. Mosby was seen on the right bank of the river with a few men Tuesday, 22d instant. The First New York Cavalry will be in Frederick to-day. I have sent Lieutenant Wyckoff there to order them on immediately.

Your obedient servant,

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

GENERAL: By special orders this day issued Captain Kusserow's battery is ordered to this point. I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you that this has been deemed necessary on account of this position being at this time greatly exposed, and it was not seen that a battery could not be ordered here so well as from your command. Please indicate whether in your judgment one or more batteries can hereafter be spared from your division should they be needed elsewhere.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

Is there a good road for teams and artillery from Martinsburg to Hancock, and would it be a good point for a pontoon bridge in regard to the span and current of the river?

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HDQRS. MID. DEPT., 8TH ARMY CORPS,
*Baltimore, Md., March* 24, 1864.

The Third Separate Brigade is hereby organized, to be commanded by Brig. Gen. H. H. Lockwood, U. S. Volunteers, headquarters in

Baltimore. This command will include all forces that now are or may be hereafter assigned to duty in that section of country within this department in the county of Frederick, the counties of Carroll, Harford, the counties of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and the city and county of Baltimore, except Forts Carroll, McHenry, Marshall, Federal Hill, and their vicinities, now within the limits of the Second Separate Brigade.

By order of Major-General Wallace:

SAMUEL B. LAWRENCE,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, *March* 25, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

If you have no objection, I propose to forbid all newspaper telegraphic communications between here and your headquarters, and all use of the telegraph save for military purposes.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, *March* 25, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

It would for several reasons be better to address your communications to the Chief of the Staff of the Army, except where you desire to communicate with me directly. Where my directions are needed he will communicate with me.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, *March* 25, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

The Vermont people are very anxious that Colonel Grant should retain his present command and be made a brigadier. The State is entitled to it if he is qualified. Shall I nominate him?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

---

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 25, 1864.
(Received 11 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Colonel Grant has been frequently recommended for promotion, and the last time by my approval. He will make a good brigadier-general, and I approve of his nomination.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
*Culpeper, Va., March* 25, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 6 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

I sent a letter to General Banks before leaving Nashville, directing him to finish his present expedition, and assemble all his available force at New Orleans as soon as possible, and prepare to receive orders for the taking of Mobile. If Shreveport is carried, about 8,000 troops can be spared from Steele and Rosecrans to join Banks, and if more are necessary to insure success against Mobile, they can be taken from Sherman. I would prefer Gillmore to act entirely on the defensive at Charleston, and hold all the spare force he has in readiness for orders. I will want him to co-operate with this army against Lee. I would like it if the Secretary of the Navy would order two of the iron-clads from Charleston to report to Admiral Farragut, with instructions to the latter not to attack until the army is ready to operate with him.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 25, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Army of the Potomac:*

General Gillmore reports that, if he is to act only on the defensive, he can spare from 7,000 to 11,000 troops from the Department of the South to operate elsewhere. Admiral Farragut reports that, with his present fleet and two or three iron-clads from Charleston, he can take Mobile, if a land force can be sent to hold it. The troops in the Department of the South are not fully supplied with transportation for operating in the interior of the country.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 25, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Army of the Potomac:*

The chief of artillery reports that 1,800 men can be immediately spared from the defenses of Washington, and it remains to be determined whether they shall be organized into field batteries or sent to the field as heavy artillery. Either will be done as you direct.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE,
*March* 25, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Send the heavy artillery as they are; there is light artillery sufficient with the army.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

WASHINGTON, *March* 25, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Two regiments of heavy artillery, numbering about 3,000 men, are ordered to the Army of the Potomac, and will leave as soon as they can be replaced by men from other forts. Please direct General Meade to telegraph General Augur where they are to land.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, *March* 25, 1864.
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

I would recommend that General Newton be ordered to report to General Sherman, and General Sykes to General Curtis.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 25, 1864.

The following regulations are published for the information and guidance of the army:

I. Hereafter the inspector-general's department of the Army of the Potomac is to be composed and organized as follows:

The inspector-general, an assistant inspector-general, and an inspector of artillery, to be stationed at headquarters.

An assistant inspector-general for each corps, to be stationed at corps headquarters.

Inspectors, in number equal to the divisions and brigades in the army, to be denominated division inspectors and brigade inspectors, the former to be selected preferably from officers of the rank of major, the latter from officers of the rank of captain or lieutenant, by corps commanders, and the chief of artillery of the Army of the Potomac, respectively, subject to the approval of the commanding general of the army.

The provost-marshal-general's and the volunteer engineer brigades being independent commands, their inspectors will be appointed by the respective commanders thereof.

II. The artillery reserve, with any regiment as its guard, and the brigades of horse artillery will constitute independent commands, and will each have an inspector, like the artillery brigades attached to corps, who shall be appointed by the chief of artillery Army of the Potomac, subject to the approval of the commanding general, and who are to alternate with the inspectors of artillery brigades attached to corps.

III. Division inspectors and brigade inspectors, except those of the artillery, are not to be considered as belonging to any particular division or brigade, but are to be subject to the orders and supervision of their corps inspectors, who will assign them, from time to time, to divisions and brigades. The artillery brigade inspectors may be transferred from one artillery brigade to another by the inspector of artillery. It will be the duty, however, of each division and brigade

inspector to render the stated reports of some particular division or brigade, to be designated from time to time, respectively, by the corps inspector and inspector of artillery, the principle of rotation being observed.

IV. The regular battalion of engineer soldiers will be inspected by an officer of the department, to be detailed by the inspector-general.

V. Once detailed for duty in the department, an officer is not to be relieved therefrom without the approval of the inspector-general.

VI. Officers of the department are not to serve in any other capacity except in cases when the public interests absolutely require it; and in all such cases the approval of the commanding general, through the inspector-general, must be given.

VII. It will be the duty of the officers of the department to keep themselves at all times thoroughly acquainted with the condition and wants of the commands with which they may be serving. They are to be prompt and energetic in detecting violations of regulations and reporting abuses, and are to adopt all measures proper to call the attention of those having authority to correct the evils on the spot. Great care is to be observed that no injustice is done to troops, or to individual officers or men, by making reports which are not fully sustained by personal and thorough examination by inspectors. The strictest impartiality must be studied, and their responsible duties must be performed without fear or favor.

VIII. It is especially enjoined on inspectors to acquire a knowledge of all existing regulations and orders, to which it will be the inspector-general's duty to call their attention from time to time, with a view to a report as to the observance thereof by the troops.*

* * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK:

The commanding general has no objection to the assignment of General Hays to the command of a brigade in General Birney's division, as proposed in your dispatch of this morning.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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BIRNEY'S HEADQUARTERS, *March* 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I wish to apply to the major-general commanding the army, through the corps commander, for the assignment of Brigadier-General Morris to the command of my Second Brigade. General Morris desires the assignment. Will Major-General Hancock forward this request?

D. B. BIRNEY,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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* Detailed instructions omitted.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13. } HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS, *March* 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Henry Prince, having reported at these headquarters in compliance with General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the command of the division of the Third Corps transferred to this command, the division to be known hereafter as the Third Division, Sixth Corps.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

M. T. McMAHON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 127. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, March* 25, 1864.

* * * * * * *

13. Maj. Gen. A. Pleasonton, U. S. Volunteers, is relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will repair without the least delay to Saint Louis, Mo., and report for duty to Major-General Rosecrans, U. S. Volunteers, commanding Department of the Missouri.

* * * * * * *

59. Brig. Gen. J. C. Caldwell, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person without delay to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army.

60. Brig. Gen. J. B. Ricketts, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty as a member of the Military Commission convened by Special Orders, No. 53, February 2, 1863, from this office, and will report in person without delay to Major-General Meade, U. S. Volunteers, commanding the Army of the Potomac, for assignment to duty.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. } HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF POTOMAC, *March* 25, 1864.

Having been relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac, the regret of separation from the many personal associations established in the Cavalry Corps becomes more impressive by the devotion, generosity, and noble bearing that have been exhibited throughout one of the most eventful periods in the history of the war.

The brave seek no higher tribute than the confidence of their comrades. Your glorious deeds testify to the trust you have maintained so sacred.

Continue to be animated by the same spirit that now guides your colors to victory, and you will reap the reward of duty to yourselves, your country, and your God.

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Special Orders, No. 75, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, relieving me from duty with this army and directing me to report to Major-General Rosecrans. I would respectfully request that I may be permitted to take my personal aides with me. They are as follows: First Lieut. Clifford Thomson, First New York Cavalry; First Lieut. George W. Yates, Fourth Michigan Infantry; First Lieut. George H. Thompson, First New Hampshire. These officers have been with me a long time, and will aid me most efficiently in a new command. Two of them belong to troops not serving with this army.

In case an adjutant-general is assigned to this corps, I would request that Capt. E. B. Parsons, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, be assigned to me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*March* 25, 1864.

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG, *Commanding Second Brigade:*

COLONEL: The following dispatch has been received from corps headquarters:

General GREGG:

Orders having been received assigning you to the temporary command of the Cavalry Corps, the commanding general desires that you report to these headquarters in person at the earliest practicable moment.

In compliance with the above order, the general commanding directs that you report at these headquarters at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning to assume command of this division.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

THOS. ARROWSMITH,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, *March* 25, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR:

If the brigade of the Pennsylvania Reserves now at Alexandria can possibly be spared from their present duty, order them to join their division in the field.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *March* 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR,
*U. S. Volunteers, Washington, D. C.:*

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that if the Pennsylvania regiments referred to in your telegram of to-day can be relieved by invalid troops to be obtained from Colonel Fry it be done.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
*Assistant Inspector-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 25, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR,
*Comdg. Dept. of Washington, Washington, D. C.:*

I have to request that the two regiments of heavy artillery to be sent to this army may be ordered to Brandy Station, where further instructions will be given them. It is desired that the commanders of the regiments notify Brigadier-General Hunt, chief of artillery, of these headquarters, when they will probably reach Brandy Station.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 25, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Army of the Potomac:*

General Sigel has been directed to return to the Army of the Potomac Wheaton's brigade, and General Heintzelman has also been directed to return Terry's brigade.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, March* 25, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
*Aide-de-Camp, Culpeper:*

Your dispatch received and General Crook informed.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., March* 25, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

The following telegram is forwarded for your information:

CULPEPER, *March* 25, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK:

General Sigel telegraphs to K. V. Whaley to ascertain whether Twentieth and Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry have been ordered to his department; that they properly belong to him and are ready to come, and for him to see that they receive the order. I know no reason why these two regiments should not be ordered to the Department of West Virginia, but it is time General Sigel should learn to carry on his official correspondence through the proper channels and not through members of Congress. Please call his attention to the fact that improper official correspondence will not be tolerated in future.

U. S. GRANT.
*Lieutenant-General.*

J. C. KELTON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, *March* 25, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

A dispatch to K. V. Whaley, from you, in reference to Twentieth Pennsylvania Cavalry, has been sent to these headquarters. The commanding general directs me to ask who K. V. Whaley is.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, March* 25, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:*

K. V. Whaley is a citizen of West Virginia, and a member of the House of Representatives.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS, *March* 25, 1864.

Upon relinquishing command I take occasion to express the pride and pleasure I have experienced in my connection with you and my profound regret at our separation. Identified by its services with the history of the war the First Corps gave at Gettysburg a crowning proof of valor and endurance, in saving from the grasp of the enemy the strong position upon which the battle was fought. The terrible losses suffered by the corps in that conflict attest its supreme devotion to the country. Though the corps has lost its distinctive name by the present changes, history will not be silent upon the magnitude of its services.

JOHN NEWTON,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *Cole's Hill, Culpeper Co., Va., March* 25, 1864.

Under the provisions of General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Army of the Potomac, of March 24, 1864, the following organization is announced for the Second Army Corps:

The original regiments of the Second Corps will be consolidated into two divisions, with the following arrangements of brigades and assignment of commanders:

First Division, Brig. Gen. F. C. Barlow commanding:

First Brigade, Col. Nelson A. Miles, Sixty-first New York Volunteers, commanding: Sixty-first New York Volunteers, Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Twenty-sixth Michigan Volunteers, Sixth Minnesota Volunteers.

Second Brigade, Col. T. A. Smyth, First Delaware Volunteers, commanding (temporarily): Twenty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers,

One hundred and sixteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Sixty-third New York Volunteers, Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, Eighty-eighth New York Volunteers.

Third Brigade, Col. Paul Frank, Fifty-second New York Volunteers, commanding: One hundred and eleventh New York Volunteers, One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Volunteers, One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, Thirty-ninth New York Volunteers, Fifty-second New York Volunteers, Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, Seventh New York Volunteers (detachment).

Fourth Brigade, Col. John R. Brooke, Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanding: Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, Sixty-sixth New York Volunteers, Second Delaware Volunteers.

Second Division, Brig. Gen. John Gibbon commanding:

First Brigade, Brig. Gen. A. S. Webb commanding: Seventh Michigan Volunteers, Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, Forty-second New York Volunteers, Eighty-second New York Volunteers, Nineteenth Maine Volunteers, Fifty-ninth New York Volunteers, Twenty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers.

Second Brigade, Brig. Gen. J. T. Owen commanding: Sixty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Seventy-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Seventy-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fifty-second New York Volunteers.

Third Brigade, Col. S. S. Carroll, Eighth Ohio Volunteers, commanding: Fourth Ohio Volunteers, Seventh West Virginia Volunteers, One hundred and eighth New York Volunteers, Twelfth New Jersey Volunteers, Tenth Battalion New York Volunteers, Eighth Ohio Volunteers, Fourteenth Indiana Volunteers, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers, First Delaware Volunteers.

This order will take effect at once. Division commanders are authorized and desired to make such arrangement with each other as will bring their new commands together, as far as practicable, without depriving the men of shelter.

The records of the late Third Division, Second Corps, will be transmitted to the adjutant-general at these headquarters.

The division formerly known as the First Division, Third Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney, will hereafter be designated as the Third Division, Second Corps.

The division formerly known as the Second Division, Third Corps, to which Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr has been assigned as commander, will hereafter be known as the Fourth Division, Second Corps.

Each of these divisions will be reduced to two brigades, with the following arrangement of regiments:

Third Division, Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney commanding:

First Brigade, Brig. Gen. J. H. H. Ward commanding: Twentieth Indiana Volunteers, Eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, One hundred and twenty-fourth New York Volunteers, Fortieth New York Volunteers, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fourteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and forty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Third Maine Volunteers, Second U. S. Sharpshooters.

Second Brigade, Brig. Gen. Alexander Hays commanding: Fourth Maine Volunteers, Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, Third Michigan Volunteers, Fifth Michigan Volunteers, Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Sixty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, First U. S. Sharpshooters.

Fourth Division, Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr commanding:

First Brigade, Brig. Gen. G. Mott commanding: Fifth New Jersey Volunteers, Sixth New Jersey Volunteers, Seventh New Jersey Volunteers, Eighth New Jersey Volunteers, One hundred and fifteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, First Massachusetts Volunteers, Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Sixteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers.

Second Brigade, Col. William R. Brewster, Seventy-third New York Volunteers, commanding: Seventieth New York Volunteers, Seventy-first New York Volunteers, Seventy-second New York Volunteers, Seventy-third New York Volunteers, Seventy-fourth New York Volunteers, One hundred and twentieth New York Volunteers, Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers, Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

All officers of the general staff rendered supernumerary by the operation of this order will report to the chiefs of their respective departments at these headquarters for instructions.

Staff officers not on the general staff, becoming supernumerary under this order, will rejoin their regiments for duty.

The organization of the staff of the corps will be announced hereafter.

The artillery brigade will retain its present organization, with such changes of batteries as may be ordered from artillery headquarters.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
*Lieutenant Colonel, Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *March* 25, 1864.

In pursuance to General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Army of the Potomac, dated March 24, 1864, the consolidation of divisions and rearrangement of brigades is made as follows:

I. The commanding officer of the First Division of the old Fifth Corps will consolidate the three brigades into two brigades, to be designated as the Second and Third Brigades, First Division, Fifth Army Corps.

II. The old Second Division, Fifth Army Corps, will be consolidated into one brigade, to be designated as the First Brigade, First Division, Fifth Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. R. B. Ayres.

III. The old Third Division of the Fifth Army Corps will remain as the new Third Division, Fifth Army Corps.

IV. The Second Brigade of Third Division, First Army Corps, is transferred to the Second Division, First Army Corps, and this division will hereafter be designated as the Second Division, Fifth Army Corps.

V. The First Brigade of Third Division, First Army Corps, is transferred to the First Division, First Army Corps, and this division will hereafter be designated as the Fourth Division, Fifth Army Corps.

VI. The designating flags of the old First Brigade, First Division, Fifth Army Corps; of the old Second Division, Fifth Army Corps; of the old Third Brigade, Second Division, Fifth Army Corps, and of the Third Division, First Army Corps, will be turned in to the corps quartermaster.

VII. The provost guard of the Third Division will return to their regiments.

VIII. All staff officers rendered supernumerary by the consolidation will report in person to these headquarters as soon as they can properly turn over their papers and close their former official duties.

IX. The following is the assignment of general officers to commands in the consolidated corps:

First. Brig. Gen. J. S. Wadsworth, commanding Fourth Division.

Second. Brig. Gen. S. W. Crawford, commanding Third Division.

Third. Brig. Gen. J. C. Robinson, commanding Second Division.

Fourth. Brig. Gen. Charles Griffin, commanding First Division.

Fifth. Brig. Gen. R. B. Ayres, commanding First Brigade, First Division.

Sixth. Brig. Gen. J. J. Bartlett, commanding Third Brigade, First Division.

Seventh. Brig. Gen. L. Cutler, commanding First Brigade, Fourth Division.

Eighth. Brig. Gen. Henry Baxter, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division.

Ninth. Brig. Gen. James Barnes, commanding Second Brigade, First Division.

Tenth. Brig. Gen. James C. Rice, commanding Second Brigade, Fourth Division.

X. The following is the corps staff:

Lieut. Col. H. C. Bankhead, inspector-general.

Lieut. Col. F. T. Locke, assistant adjutant-general.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Owen, chief quartermaster.

Captain D. L. Smith, acting chief commissary of subsistence.

Captain W. T. Gentry, commissary of musters.

Other officers of the staff will be announced in subsequent orders.

By command of Major-General Warren:

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 59. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., March* 25, 1864.

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III. The brigade of Brig. Gen. Frank Wheaton, now attached to the First Division, Brigadier-General Sullivan, is hereby, under orders from the Headquarters of the Army, relieved from further duty in this department, and will return to the Army of the Potomac.

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By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

COURT OF INQUIRY,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 25, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, &c.:*

GENERAL: The order that has come to-day returning my command to the Army of the Potomac is intended, I presume, to include the brigade entire, as it left the corps to which I belong. I write to remind you that one of my most important officers, assigned to me by the War Department (Captain Wray, assistant quartermaster), was detailed by General Kelley as quartermaster at Harper's Ferry, when Captain Flagg was relieved at General Sullivan's request. An order from you will be necessary to relieve my brigade quartermaster (Wray), directing him to report to the present brigade commander. I am very much obliged for the kind intentions you expressed to me in case I had been left in your department, but perhaps it is best that my troops should continue to follow the fortunes of that army with whose successes and misfortunes they and I have been identified since its organization.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

FRANK WHEATON,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. FRANK WHEATON,
*U. S. Volunteers, Cumberland, Md.:*

GENERAL: I received your communication of this date, requesting that Captain Wray, assistant quartermaster, now on duty at Harper's Ferry, be returned to your brigade, soon to move to the Army of the Potomac, and have to reply that orders will be issued in accordance with your wishes. I regret exceedingly to part with you and your command, but agree with you that it is probably best that your troops should continue to form a portion of the gallant Army of the Potomac. My best wishes attend you.

Very respectfully, &c.,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Julius Stahel, U. S. Volunteers, having reported at these headquarters, in pursuance of orders of the War Department, is assigned to duty as chief of cavalry of this department.

All orders emanating from his headquarters will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March 25, 1864.*

Major-General SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

When the First New York Cavalry arrives I will post it so that it may in a measure replace the infantry sent away. I must, however, control it, in order to put it in serviceable condition. Scouts from Little Cacapon saw or heard nothing.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

I will come up and see you to-night if you have no objections.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March 25, 1864.*

Brigadier-General CROOK,
*Charleston:*

Report in person to Lieutenant-General Grant at Culpeper without delay. Telegraph to me when you leave Charleston and when you pass through Cumberland. I have some papers for you. Please acknowledge.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 25, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st, relating to the iron-clad at Plymouth, together with the statement of W. P. James, the letter of the admiral, and his dispatch for Commander Flusser. The admiral's dispatch will be sent by the earliest opportunity.

During the week a storm of unusual severity has prevailed, deranging the communications very much. My latest from General Wessells was of the date of the 20th, although two boats are due. At that time he was of the opinion that an attack was contemplated by the enemy. Rumors also came in of some movement of troops by rail between Kinston and Goldsborough. I sent a man to Kinston for information, and look for him in two or three days. So soon as the man returns and matters subside about Plymouth I will go up and see if the navy can go up and destroy the iron-clad. If not, I will endeavor to ascertain the practicability of sending a force of cavalry, as suggested by you. He does not specify which side of the river she is lying. That is important for the movement of the cavalry. The Bombshell is rather small for this service. In case the navy undertakes the matter she would be of value.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 26, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: All detachments, as well as regiments and batteries, moving north from Army of the South (General Gillmore) will rendezvous here, reporting to General Casey.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, *March* 26, 1864—12 noon.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Culpeper, Va.:*

Orders sent to General Gillmore to hold his troops in readiness. I have also seen the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, as you requested, about iron-clads. Recent advices from Mobile represent that harbor defenses have been greatly increased. I think that another regiment of heavy artillery can very soon be organized and sent to the front, if desired. General Augur will visit you tomorrow.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. OF THE ARMY, *Washington, March* 26, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Culpeper:*

GENERAL: Major-General Burnside has applied for six batteries more of artillery [from] depot in this city to be assigned to his army corps and sent to Annapolis. As these batteries are under drill and instruction here and have quarters, I think they should remain till Burnside's corps is ordered to the field. If sent to Annapolis, barracks or tents must be provided for them there. Moreover, they may be very useful here in case of a raid on the city or across the Potomac. They will be kept in readiness to join Burnside the moment he starts for the field. I think this arrangement far preferable to sending them at present to Annapolis. I think some measures should be adopted to prevent officers from corresponding with members of Congress, members of the Cabinet, &c., on military affairs, without going through the proper military channels. A large portion of the time here and at the War Department is taken up with these indirect applications for transfers, leaves of absence, promotions, &c. The Secretary of War is disposed to put a stop to this by arresting every officer guilty hereafter of the offense. I inclose draft of a general order on this subject for your consideration.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 26, 1864—8 p.m.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND, *A. A. G., War Department:*

Paragraph 13, Special Orders, No. 127, War Department, relieving Major-General Pleasonton from duty with this army, is received. General Pleasonton left here this morning.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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*Approved and order issued March 30. See p. 769.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 26, 1864.

Col. C. S. WAINWRIGHT :

I have read your letter on the subject of the consolidation of the artillery of New York into a corps and heartily approve it.

The regimental organization, except as a subdivision of a corps for administration or instruction, is, for field artillery, simply absurd, and results in the greatest injury and injustice to the arm and very much injures its efficiency.

The battery is the unit of organization; it corresponds to the battalion of infantry and squadron of cavalry, two, three, or more of which constitute a regiment for administration; but for purposes of combat a brigade, say six or eight batteries, constitute a brigade of artillery, a command fully as important and extended and much more complicated than a brigade of infantry, and requiring from the ground it covers and its distribution a large staff.

Colonel Turner, of the British artillery, commanding the field artillery in Canada, spent the day and night with me yesterday. He informs me that the organization of a brigade of artillery in the British army is as follows: One colonel commandant (major-general), 2 regimental colonels, 4 lieutenant-colonels (regimental), 8 batteries, 6 guns each.

Every two batteries are commanded by a lieutenant-colonel, there being no regimental major. The whole of the artillery, consisting of many brigades, constitute the Royal Regiment of Artillery; that is a single corps for administration and promotion.

I have stated this as an illustration of how artillery is organized in other services. In our service the batteries of the same regiment do not and cannot serve together, but their officers have the advantage of regimental promotion, and the field officers take interest in the batteries.

The independent batteries have no field officers; there is no promotion opened to them; no one of any rank takes special interest in them; they are transferred from division to division, from army corps to army corps; there is no central office to take cognizance of them, to record their services, to attend to their wants, to protect their interests. Their officers, condemned to inferior positions without the hope of rising, except on condition of leaving the artillery, see officers of the regiments, their inferiors in length of service and in rank, promoted over their heads and placed in command of them.

This degrades the position, degrades the arm itself, mars the harmony of the service, and I am free to say has very much impaired the efficiency of the artillery. Leaving aside other things, look at our two last battles. At Chancellorsville, with over 400 guns in the army, I had but 5 field officers. At Gettysburg, with over 320 guns, I had but 4 field officers. Nor is this all; the absence of all stimulant to officers in the artillery has driven out of service, either into civil life or into other arms, a very large proportion of our best captains and lieutenants.

If your proposition can be adopted it might be made to cure all these evils. Field officers should be given to the corps in the same proportion to the number of batteries as are now given in the regiments. Rigid rules should be prescribed for the appointment of lieutenants and for promotion to all the grades, so as to secure it to

those whose character, fitness, and service best entitle them to it. Under the present system this is impossible. With the organization you propose it might be made easy.

I trust your letter will produce good effect.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 26, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

All quiet. The enemy placed seven guns in position at Somerville Ford this p. m. No working parties seen.

McCLOSKEY.

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *March* 26, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General NEWTON, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

No change to-day. Small party of enemy's cavalry on scout toward Thoroughfare Mountain have returned.

CASTLE,
*Signal Officer.*

---

STONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 26 1864.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

All quiet. Small party of the enemy are at work between Raccoon and Somerville Fords.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*March* 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: It has always appeared to me that the prescribed system of four lines of pickets was complicated. The three lines as originally established—the pickets, the support, the reserve—seemed sufficient. I find that in the divisions of the late Third Corps neither system is followed, and that the picket duty is very badly performed. If the major-general commanding wishes to revise the system I would suggest that it be done now. I will send the report of the corps officer of the day to-day merely to show the condition of the picket-line of the divisions lately assigned to me, as I have found it. I would suggest also that an order be issued from army headquarters re-establishing the picket-line, in order, if practicable, that the pickets of the divisions of this corps may form one continuous line.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
*Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.*

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. TWENTIETH MASSACHUSETTS, *March* 25, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report for my tour of duty of corps officer of the day on the 24th and 25th instant:

I had only time and strength to visit the picket of the two divisions of the late Third Corps, just assigned to this command. The condition of these lines was infamous, as bad as the picket duty on the Potomac three years ago. I did not attempt to improve things, however, because my efforts against an evil so universal would have seemed so puny as to have been merely laughed at. Besides, I had not time to inform, only to explain, the distance being between 30 and 40 miles, and much of the way very heavy.

The Second Division connects on the left with this old corps some distance in front, by Stevensburg. Extending between 3 and 4 miles, its right joins the left of the First Corps in front of Pony Mountain, passing the interval filled by the First Corps and the Third Division of the late Third Corps; the left of the First Division of the late Third Corps, connecting with the Third Division, rests on the Sperryville pike about 5 miles out of Culpeper and directly in front of Stone-House Mountain, and extending some 3 miles joins on the right of the Sixth Corps.

In neither of the two divisions was there a single post or support which turned out under arms at my approach. The officers had never heard of such a thing. One or two sentinels saluted, but incorrectly. In the Second Division, with the exception of the Massachusetts regiments, most of the officers were evidently careless, indifferent, and ignorant. The first officer on the left was unaware what corps his pickets connected with. Most of the officers knew nothing beyond their immediate right and left. Hardly one knew whether there was a grand reserve to the line or not. I could find no officer of the day. There was no officer in command of the whole line. There were no supports and no reserves. There was but a single line of posts of sometimes 6 and sometimes 9 men, each throwing out one sentinel in front, who is relieved each two hours, and in several cases enjoying a regular brush hut or shelter with a fire.

In this Second Division line there were nearly 700 men, who are relieved every three days. The condition of the First Division line was better in this respect, that each brigade picket had a support, though there was no grand reserve; that the officers were more wide-awake and knew their connections better; that there was a captain in command of the whole and an officer of the day, but in other particulars, like that of the Second Division, bad enough. This line consists of almost 400 men, relieved every three days.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. L. ABBOTT,
*Major Twentieth Massachusetts.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS, *March* 26, 1864.

I. The Third Division (Prince's), Sixth Corps, will be reorganized to consist of two brigades, as follows.

First Brigade to be composed of the One hundred and sixth and One hundred and fifty-first New York Volunteers, Fourteenth New

Jersey Volunteers, Tenth Vermont Volunteers, and Eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, to be commanded by Brig. Gen. W. H. Morris.

Second Brigade, One hundred and tenth, One hundred and twenty-second, and One hundred and twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteers, Sixty-seventh and One hundred and thirty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Sixth Maryland Volunteers, to be commanded by Brig. Gen. D. A. Russell.

The general staff officers of the Third Brigade, broken up by this order, will turn over the public property for which they are accountable to the proper staff officers of the other brigades of the division, and will report in person at these headquarters for assignment.

II. All enlisted men with the Third Division belonging to regiments serving with other divisions will be relieved and ordered to rejoin their regiments.

III. Brig. Gen. D. A. Russell is assigned to the command of the Second Brigade, Third Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Prince.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

M. T. McMAHON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
*Commanding First Cavalry Division, Culpeper, Va.:*

By direction from headquarters Army of the Potomac, you will at once establish your headquarters outside of Culpeper, and all officers of your command now quartered in Culpeper will join their appropriate commands.

By order of Brigadier-General Gregg, commanding corps:

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division, Stevensburg:*

The general commanding the corps directs me to inform you that the detachment of your command cannot be withdrawn from Grove Church unless you relieve it with other cavalry.

Very respectfully,

E. B. PARSONS,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 26, 1864.

Governor BOREMAN, *Wheeling, W. Va.:*

I find it necessary to concentrate the Eleventh Virginia Infantry on some important point between Parkersburg and Clarksburg to make our lines more secure. The companies of the Eleventh are now scattered in Braxton County, at Weston, Glenville, Wirt County, Parkersburg, Ravenswood, and Barboursville. These positions must be evacuated, with the exception of Parkersburg, where two com-

panies of the Sixth will be sent, who are now at Bulltown. I respectfully notify you of this arrangement, and would like to know whether you can in some way protect the places to be evacuated against bushwhackers, while I will try to prevent the enemy from making raids against that section of the country lying between Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and Elk River.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry:*

You may withdraw your troops from Martinsburg on Monday, with the exception of so much infantry as is necessary to act as provost guard and for guarding quartermaster and commissary stores in the city. Notify General Averell.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding First Division, Harper's Ferry:*

Please direct Major Merriam, Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, to send me, through your headquarters, immediately, a brief written report in regard to the intrenchments of Harper's Ferry, stating the following:

First. How many forts, where situated, how named, how many guns, and what kind in each; also how many men in each fort, and whether artillery or infantry.

Second. The best ways and means to complete the intrenchments, so that at least 5,000 infantry, with their stores, can find protection within the forts and rifle-pits.

Third. Whether Bolivar Heights are sufficiently fortified or whether the intrenchments should be enlarged on those heights and made bomb-proof.

Fourth. Whether a sufficient amount of ammunition is now on hand for the pieces in position, and whether the necessary requisitions have been or will be made.

This report to be sent in within three or four days after receipt of this telegram.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Commanding Cavalry Division, Martinsburg:*

Select six regiments from those you have now under your command, including the First New York Volunteers, to form a division, and send the others to this place. The cavalry now here must be sent west. You may select between the Fifteenth New York, stationed at Burlington, and mounted and well armed, and the First Virginia. I would prefer to send the First Virginia west, as they

are better acquainted with the country. If you wish to keep the Twenty-second Pennsylvania, I will order the Ringgold Battalion to join them. I have applied for more cavalry, and will re-enforce you as soon as possible. Please report what regiments you have selected.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HALLTOWN, *March* 26, 1864.

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The infantry pickets have been withdrawn this afternoon without my knowledge. I will re-establish the line to-night, if possible.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General DUFFIÉ,
*Charleston, Kanawha:*

The general commanding the department directs that you immediately prepare one regiment of infantry, about one-third of your available cavalry, and two pieces of artillery, to occupy some point as an advanced corps of observation. As little baggage and as few wagons as possible must be taken. Telegraph when the troops will be about ready to move.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. 3RD. BRIG., 2D DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Clarksburg, W. Va., March* 26, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of West Virginia, Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: The following is the substance of a communication received from Capt. William Hall, Rowlesburg, viz: On the 19th instant a party of 8 rebels belonging to Imboden's command came into Tucker County and robbed David Wheeler's store and stole several horses. Lieutenant Gallion, Sixth Virginia Infantry, followed them, and also sent word to Captain Lambert, State scout service. The latter started his men for the Links and came up with the rebel squad on Sunday night, 20th instant, and took them by surprise, killing 3, taking 2 of them prisoners, recapturing the store goods and 9 horses. The prisoners are named ——— Weed and Taylor Chinoworth. Weed says that Imboden had sent 11 of them across the mountain to capture a wagon train between Webster and Beverly. They concealed themselves within 20 yards of the road, 15 miles from Beverly, but the train was strongly guarded and they did not attack it. They were informed that a train of five wagons had gone to Beverly without a guard and they waited one day for its return, but it did not come. They then started back. The squad divided, and one part of it

robbed Wheeler's store. Weed says that Imboden is in the valley with 1,500 men and one battery, and the horses are in good condition. Captain Lambert took the prisoners to Wheeling last night, 24th instant.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. WILKINSON,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that I have just received a communication from General Wessells, commanding Sub-district of the Albemarle, of the 24th. He writes:

> I can get no accurate information as to the force of the enemy above; some say fifteen regiments and others say 15,000. It is impossible to arrive at the truth at present, but the indications are certainly threatening. There are three indications worthy of notice, viz, closing the lines above, moving the torpedoes near Williamston, and the absence of river obstructions near Fort Branch.
>
> Four North Carolina soldiers, who deserted in disgust the rebel camp at Danville, have just arrived. They state that three regiments of infantry had just arrived at Tarborough from Weldon, and that some 4,000 were at Greenville. The talk was of an intended movement on Washington and New Berne.
>
> Mr. Clang came in from Columbia via Goldsborough; belongs to the secret order; was informed by loyal men at Goldsborough that New Berne would be attacked, and that the iron-clad was about ready.

I have sent your dispatches to General Wessells for his views, after conferring with Commander Flusser. He will have some later advice touching the amount of force and the position of the iron-clad. I feel entirely sanguine that the iron-clad in the Roanoke will be destroyed if she attacks Plymouth.

I inclose the latest rebel papers. Recently but very few have reached our lines.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

GENERAL: I had the honor to mail you this day certain extracts from a communication of Brigadier-General Wessells, dated 24th, in respect to the rebel iron-clad and operations of the enemy above Plymouth. Commander Davenport has just placed in my hands a dispatch from Commander Flusser, U. S. Navy, a copy of which will be found on the next page for your information. He would send the Tacony now, but the others, as he says, are mere shells. If the next news is of the same character he will dispatch her, because I can temporarily dispense with her, since the 100-pounder rifle is in position at the battery at the termination of the crémaillère line on the right flank.

U. S. STEAMER MIAMI,
*Plymouth, N. C., March 24, 1864.*

Commander H. K. DAVENPORT,
*Senior Naval Officer, Sounds of N. C., U. S. S. Hetzel, New Berne:*

SIR: I have information to-day, which would seem to be reliable, to the effect that the iron-clad on this river is at Hamilton, and that the rebels are removing or have removed the torpedoes they had placed in the river below Williamston. It is also stated their boat is 80 feet long, and, something more serious, that her armor is 4½ inches instead of 3 as formerly represented.

We should have the guns for the Southfield immediately, as we do not know when we will be attacked. The land force (rebel) near us has been lately increased and their lines closed, to prevent information reaching us. I think we may expect an early attack. Please send the Southfield's guns at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. FLUSSER,
*Lieutenant-Commander.*

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

---

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 26, 1864.*

Commander H. K. DAVENPORT,
*Senior Naval Officer, Sounds of N. C., U. S. S. Hetzel:*

COMMANDER: I have inclosed the copy of Commander Flusser's note of the 24th respecting the rebel iron-clad and anticipated attack upon Plymouth, which you left with me for the information of General Butler, commanding the department.

In view of the fact that the Southfield needs a 100-pounder rifle, having burst hers in extricating the Bombshell, I regret that it is not in my power to send you temporarily another gun. The army in North Carolina has but six, one at Plymouth, one at Hatteras, two at Macon, and two at New Berne. While there is an abundance of old guns, there are but seven rifles which can produce any effect upon the two iron-clads, which may be expected down the rivers at any time. This change in the mode of attack on the part of the rebels necessitates a call for more heavy rifles. I have applied for three 100-pounders, in order that I may have them for contingencies, such as bursting and being dismounted. Should the iron-clads get into the sound Hatteras and Roanoke will require them.

In conclusion, I desire to thank you for the prompt tender of the Tacony for service at Plymouth.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK.
*Major-General.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March 27*, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

All quiet. The enemy have covered with brush the guns reported yesterday at Somerville Ford. Very hazy in direction of the river.

McCLOSKEY.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE U. S., *In Field, Culpeper C. H., Va., March 27*, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. George Crook, U. S. Volunteers, accompanied by his personal aide-de-camp, First Lieut. J. N. Patton, Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry Volunteers, will report in person to these headquarters for a personal interview with the lieutenant-general commanding, after which he will return to his command at Charleston, W. Va.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, EXECUTIVE DEPT.,
*Wheeling, March 27*, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 26th instant has been received. in which you say that you "find it necessary to concentrate the Eleventh Virginia Infantry on some important point between Parkersburg and Clarksburg to make our lines more secure." I further understand from your letter that it is your purpose to withdraw the troops now stationed at Bulltown, Weston, Glenville, &c.

If I am to understand that it is your purpose to concentrate these troops at some point on the railroad, then your proposition amounts to an evacuation of all that part of the State east of the railroad, and between Beverly and the mouth of Gauley River. This, in my opinion, may prove very disastrous, as there are several mountain passes between the two last-mentioned points through which the enemy can approach the interior of the State, and which it will be very difficult to prevent by a force stationed on the railroad, and, moreover, it will probably lead to an abandonment of a large and valuable section of the State by many of our best and most loyal citizens. As the troops are stationed now, the public mind in the region spoken of is growing feverish and very much excited as the spring opens, as you may have seen from a letter of E. M. Tunstill, of Weston, sent you by me a few days since, which is only one of the many letters on the same subject that I am receiving almost daily. If the troops are withdrawn to the railroad there will soon be no civil organization in any county east of that road, as no man would be safe in holding office in any of those counties. As matters now stand, officers are frequently captured and carried off to Richmond. It would be much worse if the military between them and the enemy should be withdrawn. Understanding your proposition as I do, I feel it my duty to say frankly that it will be impossible for me to protect the country which you are about to evacuate. If, however, I am mistaken, and it is your purpose to station troops between Beverly and the mouth of Gauley, so as to prevent the incursions of the enemy, then the interior may be protected against bushwhackers by State organizations.

Very respectfully,

A. I. BOREMAN,
*Governor.*

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March 27, 1864.*

Major-General SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

The road hence to Cherry Run is not always reliable. Back Creek is also frequently an obstacle. The river at Cherry Run is about the same as at Williamsport. I have sent an officer to examine the route via McCoy's Ferry. The road via Williamsport is always reliable, if bridge be so.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

The river at McCoy's Ferry is 800 feet wide; no flat on either side. On left bank road runs under canal, gentle ascent. The approach on this side is through a gorge covered one-fourth of a mile with cedar timber; on left hand, mountain precipitous and inaccessible; right hand, wooded hill. From what I can learn, good position for têtes-de-pont. Good country road from hence there, over 12 miles. Will write to-morrow.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

Five companies Twenty-second Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Colonel Higgins, unarmed, dismounted, and unequipped, have reported here. If the Twenty-second is to belong to my division I request that the balance of the regiment, which is the Ringgold Battalion, be ordered here; if not, that orders from department headquarters may be received for the five companies here.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *March 27*, 1864.

Col. GEORGE D. WELLS:

You will move with your command, leaving only details for provost duty and guards for quartermaster and commissary stores, reporting in person on your arrival. The detail remaining at Martinsburg will be taken from the One hundred and twenty-third Ohio Infantry. You are expected to leave Martinsburg by Tuesday morning. Your command will march, camp and garrison equipage to be hauled in wagons. Notify General Averell of this order.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March 27*, 1864.

Brigadier-General DUFFIÉ,
*Charleston, Kanawha:*

The troops ordered to be ready for an expedition will occupy Summerville, but it must be done so that the enemy, if near there, shall not become aware of the movement before it is executed, or at its start. It would be therefore well not to let the cavalry go in advance

at the commencement, except the necessary scouting parties. The object of this movement is to get reliable news about the enemy in the direction of Lewisburg and Princeton. The troops will remain there as a corps of observation as long as no strong forces are sent against them, and as long as their lines of retreat are not in danger, or your whole position attacked. I leave it to you to arrange the details of this movement according to your discretion, and to make such modifications in regard to the regiment selected as you think proper. Make your preparations well, and move as soon as you are perfectly ready and all your instructions well understood. The troops must be kept in strict discipline and perfect order on the march. If there is an opportunity they shall arrest at Summerville or vicinity 7 influential rebel citizens, and send them to Charleston as hostages for some Union citizens taken here by rebel guerrillas. Please acknowledge receipt of this.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CHARLESTON, W. VA., *March* 27, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

Your telegram is just received. Troops will start to-morrow at daybreak. Two companies of my cavalry returned from an expedition toward Wayne County, capturing 13 prisoners and a rebel mail. Rebel prisoners from the Twenty-second Virginia (rebel) Infantry, who were captured yesterday on the road to Lewisburg, report no enemy at Lewisburg. Will you please order the balance of the Third Virginia Cavalry to report here? Can I soon get horses for my command?

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 121. } *Washington, March* 27, 1864.

All furloughed men of the Ninth Army Corps will, at the expiration of their furloughs, rendezvous at Annapolis, Md. Department and other commanders will facilitate the execution of this order.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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IN FIELD, CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*March* 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Washington, D. C.:*

The batteries called for by General Burnside had better be furnished in the way you suggest—that is, to assign them to his corps, but leave them where they now are until the corps is moved into the field. They can then be ordered directly to the point where they will be wanted. The order drafted by you is herewith returned, with the request that it be published.

I have ordered General W. F. Smith to report to me in Washington City on Thursday next. This order is given with the view of having him assigned to the command of the Tenth Army Corps. I do not care, however, about the order being made assigning him until after he reports.

I think General Wilson should be relieved from duty in the Cavalry Bureau as soon as it is possible to find an officer to succeed him. I cannot suggest an officer to take his place.

In the campaign which it is desirable to commence as soon as our veterans return it is important to have some one near Banks, who can issue orders to him and see that they are obeyed. This will be specially important if a move is made against Mobile, as I now calculate upon. How to effect this I do not see unless all the territory embraced in the Departments of the Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and the Gulf are formed into a military division. Who to place in command of it I do not know. Of the four department commanders Steele would be by far the best, and would do very well. He has not got with him, however, a single general officer whom I would like to trust alone with a command. The best suggestion I could make would be to promote Dodge for Steele's command. I wish you would think of this matter and give me your views.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 129. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, March* 28, 1864.

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29. Maj. Gen. C. C. Washburn, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby temporarily assigned to the command of the post of Annapolis, Md.

* * * * * * *

37. Brig. Gen. J. C. Caldwell, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby detailed as a member of the military commission now in session in this city, convened by Special Orders, No. 53, of February 2, 1863, from this office.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 28, 1864—11.05 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM:

The commanding general directs that the Fiftieth New York Engineers join the engineer camp near Rappahannock Station, with as little delay as practicable. If there are men in this regiment that you think it necessary to detain for special service at the depot you are authorized to retain such men. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

STONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 28, 1864.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

A party of the enemy, numbering between 100 and 200, is intrenching itself on the heights a little below Somerville Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Signal Officer.*

(Copy to General Hancock.)

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *March* 28, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, *Army of the Potomac:*

The enemy are more active to-day. Inspections of regiments and one brigade reviewed. No movements. Regular cannonading heard west-southwest during the day; target practice, I think.

CASTLE,
*Signal Officer.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 28, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Enemy still at work as reported this a. m. All quiet.

TAYLOR.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF THE SUSQUEHANNA, *Chambersburg, Pa., March* 28, 1864.

I. In obedience to paragraph 31, Special Orders, No. 125, War Department, March 23, 1864, Capt. J. H. Gilman, commissary of subsistence, U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty as chief commissary of subsistence of the Department of the Susquehanna.

II. Capt. Brownell Granger, commissary of subsistence, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to duty as chief commissary of subsistence of the Department of the Susquehanna.

By command of Major-General Couch:

JOHN S. SCHULTZE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 28, 1864.
(Received 2.50 p. m.)

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,
*War Department, Washington:*

General Duffié, commanding at Charleston, Kanawha, during the absence of General Crook, reports:

Two companies of my cavalry returned from an expedition toward Wayne County, capturing 13 prisoners and a rebel mail. Rebel prisoners from the Twenty-second Virginia (rebel) Infantry, who were captured yesterday on the road to Lewisburg, report no enemy at Lewisburg.

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*General, Commanding.*

Colonel Moor, commanding at Beverly, reports that 70 women and children were sent with a flag of truce into his lines by order of General Echols, commanding the Confederate troops in that region.

Further report will be made in regard to this matter. He also reports the capture of a rebel spy. One of our infantry scouting parties of 23 men sent out from Sir John's Run to Bloomery Gap on Great Cacapon River, Hampshire County, met 70 of Gilmor's cavalry, fought and repulsed them, killed 3 and wounded 4; they also made 2 lieutenants and 1 man prisoners.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *March* 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding Division, Harper's Ferry:*

From information received, I am compelled to detach a considerable portion of cavalry from the command of General Averell. I wish, therefore, that you reduce your forces guarding the railroad, especially between Harper's Ferry and Martinsburg, to a minimum, inasmuch as General Averell guards this line in front with his cavalry. The garrison at Harper's Ferry must be restricted to the artillery in the forts and such infantry as can be stationed within the intrenchments and protect the pieces in position. This will enable you to leave one or two regiments and the battery of Lieutenant Du Pont at Martinsburg for the present to prevent a strong force of the enemy's cavalry dislodging General Averell's command at Martinsburg. This will be only necessary for a very short time, until the pontoons ordered to Williamsport will have arrived there and [we] secure a safe line of communication and retreat to the troops at Martinsburg. In any emergency I will immediately telegraph to Washington to have you re-enforced. I hope that you will do everything you can to comply with these instructions to meet the present emergency.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST DIV., DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., March* 28, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

In answer to your letter of date March 24, inquiring whether, in my judgment, one or more batteries can hereafter be spared from my command should they be needed elsewhere, I will reply that two batteries can well be spared, viz, Seventeenth Indiana Battery, Captain Miner; Thirtieth New York Independent Battery, Captain von Kleiser.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 28, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Division, New Creek:*

The general commanding department directs that you order the Eleventh Virginia to concentrate immediately at Bulltown. The

company at Weston shall remain there until further orders. As soon as the other companies have arrived at Bulltown the regiment will receive further orders in regard to the position it has to take. The companies of the Sixth Virginia now at Bulltown will report to Colonel Wilkinson as soon as they are relieved by an equal number of companies of the Eleventh Virginia. You will direct Colonel Wilkinson to make his arrangements so that the Sixth Virginia Regiment shall guard the railroad from Parkersburg to Oakland, and that the Eleventh Virginia will march forthwith.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. THIRD DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Charleston, W. Va., March* 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Commanding Department of West Virginia:*

SIR: I think it is my duty to make you the following report concerning sending troops to Summerville as a corps of observation:

First. The troops at Fayetteville, consisting of three regiments of infantry and one battery of artillery, can fully fulfill the duties required by you.

Second. My cavalry is constantly moving on the roads leading to Princeton and Lewisburg, and I always by so doing shall be aware of any movements of the enemy. My scouts and spies are constantly out.

Third. The distance from Fayetteville to Princeton is shorter than the distance from Summerville. If I have to occupy the place assigned by you (Summerville) I shall require that more infantry and cavalry be sent here, for in case of an attack, my troops being already much scattered throughout the country, it will require for their concentration more than three days. I do not, general, make any objection to order, which orders shall always be fulfilled with promptness and faithfulness, but it is a mere statement that I submit to you for your approval or disapproval. Troops have started and will carry out strictly your orders.

The roads leading to Summerville have been heavily blockaded, and now are, so they are nearly impracticable for wagons, and I positively fear nothing from the enemy on this side of the Gauley River.

I shall beg of you to forward to me without delay the arms and horses required to place this command efficient for field duties.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March* 28, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: When Colonel Streight was here I had conversation with him in regard to the transfer of himself and regiment to this department. The long residence of himself and officers in Richmond and

their knowledge of the city will render them invaluable here at some day, which I hope is not far distant. May I ask that Colonel Streight's regiment be sent here?

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL HECKMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
*March* 28, 1864.

Colonel KEESE:

Four boat-loads of the enemy have landed at Crum's Point and driven our pickets away. You will order Cole's cavalry to proceed in that direction immediately, and the Fifth Pennsylvania will report to you as soon as they can arrive there.

C. A. HECKMAN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 126. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, March* 29, 1864.

The following officers are announced as of the staff of Lieutenant-General Grant:

Lieut. Col. C. B. Comstock, senior aide-de-camp, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

Lieut. Col. O. E. Babcock and Maj. F. T. Dent, Fourth U. S. Infantry, aides-de-camp, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

Lieut. Col. W. L. Duff, Second Illinois Artillery, assistant inspector-general.

Maj. W. R. Rowley, aide-de-camp, and Capt. Adam Badeau, additional aide-de-camp, private secretaries, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 131. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, March* 29, 1864.

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66. Paragraph 29 of Special Orders No. 129, March 28, 1864, from this office, is hereby revoked, and the following substituted:

Maj. Gen. C. C. Washburn, U. S. Volunteers, will at once repair to Annapolis, Md., and report to Major-General Burnside, U. S. Volunteers, for assignment to duty, to command a division of the Ninth Army Corps.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *In Field, Culpeper C. H., Va., March 29, 1864.*

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II. Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person to Maj. Gen. F. Sigel, commanding Department of West Virginia, for duty.

The Quartermaster's Department at Washington, D. C., will furnish transportation for his horses.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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IN FIELD, CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *March 29, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. ORD,
*Commanding Expedition, Culpeper Court-House, Va.:*

In the expedition to start from Beverly, Va., and which you have been selected to command, the main object will be to destroy the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, so that it can be of no further use to the enemy during the rebellion. Anything else that can be accomplished in the way of destroying what may be made useful by the enemy in prolonging the war will be well. Unless something should transpire to change present plans, you will move, when directed to do so, by the most practicable route to Covington, Va.; thence to the easiest point of access on the railroad above alluded to. General Crook will move about the same time from Charleston, Va., striking for Saltville, and will work eastward from that point to form a junction with you. You may find it necessary to fall back from the line of the railroad to your former base, either in consequence of the difficulty of procuring supplies or by the movements of the enemy, especially Longstreet's or Breckinridge's command.

Not being able to communicate freely with either your department commander or with these headquarters, the necessity of such a move you will have to be the judge of. However, as there will be an advance attempted both east and west of you, it is expected you will find no difficulty in moving eastward to Lynchburg, and possibly, by subsisting upon the country for a time, establish a base of supplies on the James River. In case of this much success, you will make no backward movement, at least not without further orders.

The iron-works at Fincastle are of much importance to the enemy whilst they hold the part of the State in which they are located. If, therefore, you find it necessary to fall back, and it is practicable to do so, destroy them beyond all repair. This is not given as positive official instructions, not being given through the department commander, but it is the substance of what I now think will be your instructions, sent in the proper time and in the proper manner, and is given in order to give you as much time as possible in obtaining a knowledge of the country in which you will have to operate.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 29, 1864.

I. The following extracts from the general orders governing the transfer of enlisted men from the military to the naval service of the United States are published for the information and guidance of this army:

Section 7 of the act approved February 24, 1864, published in General Orders, No. 91, War Department, March 4, 1864, provides as follows:

And any person now in the military service of the United States who shall furnish satisfactory proof that he is a mariner by vocation, or an able seaman, or ordinary seaman, may enlist into the Navy under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the President of the United States: *Provided*, That such enlistment shall not be for less than the unexpired term of his military service nor for less than one year. And the bounty money which any mariner, or seaman, or ordinary seaman, enlisting from the Army into the Navy, may have received from the United States, or from the State in which he enlisted in the Army, shall be deducted from the prize money to which he may become entitled during the time required to complete his military service: *And provided further*, That the whole number of such transfer enlistments shall not exceed 10,000.

The following regulations are prescribed by the President of the United States to carry this act into effect:

The Secretary of the Navy designates the whole number, not exceeding 12,000, which it is desirable to have at each of the several naval stations fixed upon by him, as follows, viz: At Cairo, Ill., 1,000; at Boston, 2,000; at New York, 5,000; at Philadelphia, 3,000; at Baltimore, 1,000.

To facilitate as much as possible the execution of the law above cited, it shall be the duty of every officer commanding a company, and of every officer commanding a recruiting rendezvous or depot, to forward all the applications made to him for transfer by seamen or ordinary seamen of his company or detachment, together with the proof that the applicants are mariners by vocation, or able or ordinary seamen, through the proper authorities to the headquarters of the army or department in which the company is serving, or in which the rendezvous or depot may be situated; and he shall indicate in his report those of the applicants who have served longest at sea, and whether in the merchant or naval service. Not less than two years' sea service will constitute an ordinary seaman, and not less than four an able seaman; and, in the absence of other proof, the applicant may be required to make oath as to the service h · has seen at sea.

Each commanding general of an army or department which has been required to furnish a quota for transfer to the Navy will at once designate one or more officers, as may be required, to examine the applications and determine from them, according to the qualifications of the applicants and the number to be furnished, what men shall be transferred to the Navy.

As fast as selections are made, the men selected for transfer will be sent to the designated stations in the most expeditious manner, under suitable conduct, and the officer in charge of each detachment will be furnished with complete descriptive lists, containing statements of the pay, bounty, and clothing received and due, which will be turned over with the men to the commandant of the station.

Upon being accepted at the naval station, the men will be dropped from the rolls of their companies as transferred to the Navy by enlistment; but if rejected for physical disability or for not having seen the prescribed sea service they will be sent back to their companies, and if guilty of fraud or misrepresentations in their applications the expense of transportation will be charged against their pay.

Paragraph 2 of General Orders, No. 123, War Department, March 23, 1864, is as follows:

Every department and army commander will cause to be transferred as speedily as possible to the nearest naval station named in General Orders, No. 91, all enlisted men who desire to enlist in the Navy, and who fulfill the conditions required in General Orders, No. 91, without regard to the restriction in the said orders as to reduction of regiments and companies below the minimum organization, which restriction is removed.

II. For the purpose of more fully and expeditiously carrying into

effect the foregoing provisions, so far as this army is concerned, corps and other independent commanders will at once appoint a board of three officers, whose duty it shall be to examine into all applications for transfer to the Navy within their several commands, and who will make through the regular channels of military correspondence a daily report to these headquarters of all cases that meet the foregoing requirements. Such report will give the names, companies, and regiments of the applicants, together with all the facts necessary to authorize a transfer, and the nature of the evidence in support of the application.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 29, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: The following will be the organization of the artillery of this army under General Orders, No. 10, Army of the Potomac, current series:

Artillery Brigade, Second Corps, Col. J. C. Tidball, Fourth New York Artillery, commanding: Hazard's battery (B, First Rhode Island Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Ames' battery (G, First New York Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Gilliss' batteries (C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Roder's battery (K, Fourth U. S. Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Arnold's battery (A, First Rhode Island Artillery), six 3-inch rifles; Sleeper's battery (Tenth Massachusetts), six 3-inch rifles; Ricketts' battery (F, First Pennsylvania Artillery), six 3-inch rifles; McKnight's battery (Twelfth New York), six 3-inch rifles. Total, eight batteries, forty-eight guns.

Artillery Brigade, Fifth Corps, Col. C. S. Wainwright, First New York Artillery, commanding: Stewart's battery (B, Fourth U. S. Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Winslow's battery (D, First New York Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Mink's battery (H, First New York Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Martin's battery (C, Massachusetts Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Rittenhouse's battery (D, Fifth U. S. Artillery), six 10-pounder Parrotts; Phillips' battery (E, Massachusetts Artillery), six 3-inch rifles; Reynolds' batteries (E and L, First New York Artillery), six 3-inch rifles; Cooper's battery (B, First Pennsylvania Artillery), six 3-inch rifles. Total, eight batteries, forty-eight guns.

Artillery Brigade, Sixth Corps, Col. C. H. Tompkins, First Rhode Island Artillery, commanding: McKnight's battery (M, Fifth U. S. Artillery), six light 12-pounders; McCartney's battery (A, Massachusetts Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Bucklyn's battery (E, First Rhode Island Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Harn's battery (Third New York Independent), six light 12-pounders; Robinson's battery (Fourth Maine), six 3-inch rifles; Waterman's battery (C, First Rhode Island Artillery), six 10-pounder Parrotts; Adams' battery (G, First Rhode Island), six 3-inch rifles; Cowan's battery (First New York Independent), six 3-inch rifles.

Artillery Reserve, Col. H. S. Burton, Fifth U. S. Artillery, commanding: Brooker's battery (B, First Connecticut Artillery), four

siege guns; Pratt's battery (M, First Connecticut Artillery), four siege guns; Taft's battery (Fifth New York Independent Artillery), six 20-pounder Parrotts; Sheldon's battery (B, First New York Artillery), four 10-pounder Parrotts; Hexamer's battery (A, First New Jersey Artillery); Ewing's battery (H, First Ohio Artillery), four 3-inch rifles; Burton's battery (Eleventh Independent New York), four 3-inch rifles; Edgell's battery (First New Hampshire Artillery), four 3-inch rifles; Barnes' battery (C, First New York Artillery), four 3-inch rifles; Stevens' battery (Fifth Maine Artillery), four light 12-pounders; Clark's battery (B, First New Jersey Artillery), six light 12-pounders; Bigelow's battery (Ninth Massachusetts), four light 12-pounders; Dow's battery (Sixth Maine), six light 12-pounders; Hart's battery (Fifteenth Independent New York), four light 12-pounders; Eakin's battery (H, First U. S. Artillery), four light 12-pounders; Fitzhugh's battery (C, Fourth United States), four light 12-pounders; Barstow's batteries (F and K, Third United States), four light 12-pounders.

Horse Artillery.—First Brigade, Capt. J. M. Robertson, Second Artillery, commanding: Williston's battery (D, Second U. S. Artillery), four light 12-pounders; Fuger's battery (A, Fourth U. S. Artillery, four light 12-pounders; Heaton's batteries (B and L, Second U. S. Artillery), six 3-inch rifles; Field's battery (E, Fourth U. S. Artillery), four 3-inch rifles; Martin's battery (Sixth New York Independent), six 3-inch rifles; Pennington's battery (M, Second U. S. Artillery), six 3-inch rifles.

Second Brigade, Capt. A. M. Randol, First Artillery, commanding: Von Michalowski's battery (I, First U. S. Artillery), four light 12-pounders; Dennison's battery (G, Second U. S. Artillery), four light 12-pounders; Porter's battery (E, First U. S. Artillery), four 3-inch rifles; Egan's battery (K, First U. S. Artillery), six 3-inch rifles; Clarke's battery (A, Second U. S. Artillery), six 3-inch rifles; Ransom's battery (C, Third U. S. Artillery), six 3-inch rifles.

Total Horse Artillery, twelve batteries, sixty guns; one brigade in Artillery Reserve, one with the cavalry.

Two regiments of foot artillery, Fourth and Fifteenth New York, have reported for duty and will be assigned with the artillery brigades of corps, one to each corps, if another regiment is received; if not, they will be distributed equally to the corps by battalions.

The Sixth New York Foot Artillery is serving with the Artillery Reserve.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*March* 29, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Parties of the enemy are engaged this morning constructing two redoubts near Somerville Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

I have made arrangements to communicate to army headquarters by signal, if necessary.

ARLINGTON HOUSE, VA., *March* 29, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Headquarters, Washington, D. C.:*

I have the honor to forward a communication from Colonel Piper, commanding Third Brigade, Fort Lyon, just received at these headquarters. There is no cavalry in this division except on the extreme right—a detachment of the Thirteenth New York—and presume that they would not be likely to be in the position referred to by Colonel Piper, which is as follows:

SIR: My pickets reported on yesterday that a party of mounted men (about 15 in number) were seen in a direction southwest from Fort Lyon and about half a mile distant. I presume this to have been a party of our cavalry, as it is hardly probable that a marauding party of the enemy would show themselves so publicly. I respectfully request that I may be informed if we have any cavalry pickets in front of my lines.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PIPER,
*Colonel Tenth New York Artillery, Commanding Brigade.*

G. A. DE RUSSY,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General THOMAS,
*Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington:*

GENERAL: For the purpose of general information to the War Department and the general commanding the Army, I have the honor to submit the following report in regard to the strength, position, and condition of the troops in this department, with some additional remarks pertaining to this subject:

First. The Department of West Virginia extends from the Potomac in the east to the Ohio and beyond the Kanawha in the west and southwest, and includes the whole line of the Baltimore railroad from the Monocacy and Harper's Ferry to Parkersburg and the Northwestern Railroad from Grafton to Wheeling. These lines must be protected, not only on account of their importance as public highways, but also on account of their importance and necessity as lines of communication and supplies for the Army of West Virginia. To effect this, the larger portion of the troops belonging to this department are distributed from Monocacy to Fredericktown and Harper's Ferry to Parkersburg and Wheeling.

Second. The forces now present for duty and equipped, according to last tri-monthly report of 20th of March, are: Infantry, officers and men, 15,680; cavalry, officers and men, 5,441; artillery, officers and men, 2,276; total, 23,397.

Subtract Wheaton's brigade, ordered to the Potomac, about 1,000 for duty and equipped, which would make an aggregate present and equipped 22,397.

There are 118 pieces of artillery in this department; of these, thirty are siege guns, and thirteen unmounted pieces in fixed positions. The eighty-six field pieces remaining are distributed as follows: With General Sullivan at Harper's Ferry and Martinsburg, thirty pieces; with Colonel Mulligan, twenty-two pieces; at Cumberland, New Creek, Burlington, and Greenland Gap, and at Clarksburg, with

General Crook, on the Kanawha, twenty-two pieces; with General Averell two batteries, twelve pieces, one of which, a battery of horse artillery, and stationed at Martinsburg; the other a light battery, stationed at Beverly.

Third. The forces mentioned are at present divided into three infantry divisions and one cavalry division.

The First Division, under General Sullivan, occupies Harper's Ferry, Martinsburg, Fredericktown, and the line of railroad from Monocacy to Martinsburg and Sleepy Creek.

The cavalry division of General Averell (formerly Fourth Division) is stationed near Martinsburg, with a line of outposts from the Shenandoah to Back Creek, sending scouts and patrols for 30 miles to the west, southwest, and south. Two regiments of infantry attached to this division are stationed at Beverly, under command of Colonel Moor.

The Second Division, Colonel Mulligan commanding, is scattered for the greater part on the railroad from Sleepy Creek, near Hancock, to Parkersburg, with advanced posts at Philippi, Buckhannon, Bulltown, Glenville, and Wirt Court-House.

The Third Division, under Brigadier-General Crook, is distributed in the Kanawha Valley, at Charleston, Fayetteville, Gauley Bridge and Barboursville.

It is proper to remark that by far the greater part of these troops are in positions which they cannot evacuate without great danger to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Harper's Ferry absorbs about 5,000 men, of which one brigade has now been sent away, leaving six regiments of infantry in all at Harper's Ferry and Martinsburg, and on the Baltimore railroad line from Monocacy to Sleepy Creek. Besides this, the Sixth Virginia Regiment (fourteen companies) was organized, as I am informed, under the proviso to guard and protect the railroad, and as the railroad itself is absolutely necessary to us as a line of communication and supplies, it cannot be left totally unprotected during a concentration of our forces, because it would be left in the hands of a population which is for a great part disloyal, and would take opportunity to destroy it as soon as we withdraw our forces to any point of concentration.

The troops in the Kanawha Valley form a special corps of defense and of observation, and cannot easily be united with the rest of our troops to resist an attack through the Shenandoah Valley, or through the region between the Shenandoah and the Alleghany Mountains.

Fourth. Intrenchments.—There are many block-houses built and under construction, for the purpose of giving shelter and protection to the small detachments who guard the bridges and trestle-works on the railroad. There are also several points on the railroad where unmounted pieces have been brought into position, but this arrangement could not prevent the enemy from destroying the road as soon as he can reach it with a few hundred cavalrymen; and with the exception of Harper's Ferry, the fortifications of which point are not complete and finished, there is not one point on the whole line of railroad to Parkersburg, a distance of over 300 miles, which is protected by proper field-works and properly armed, so that it could be regarded as a secure depot and base point from which we could operate into the interior without exposing it to the raids of the enemy.

Cumberland, with its 8,000 inhabitants—the most important city between Baltimore and Wheeling—is totally unprotected.

New Creek, with its immense military store-houses, is very poorly

protected ; the same is the case with Grafton, Clarksburg, and Parkersburg. Efforts have been made to intrench these places and to disengage our foces there, but nothing of great consequence has been accomplished. A small fort is now under construction at Cumberland, another at Clarksburg.

New Creek has one fort, which is well constructed, but partly dilapidated, and only armed by an old iron 14-pounder and a 4-pounder. This fort, with its miserable armament, cannot prevent the enemy reaching the stores and destroying them ; it is also perfectly commanded by the surrounding hills. At Beverly and Bulltown intrenchments have been made for the small forces occupying these advanced positions. There is also a fort 10 miles from Charleston (Fort Piatt, on the Kanawha), and another fort at Fayetteville, but these intrenchments must be abandoned as soon as the enemy moves in considerable force from Summerville and Braxton against Charleston. The defense of the State, therefore, depends at this moment principally on the troops alone and their capability to move and to fight.

Fifth. The condition of many of the troops is poor, from the fact that they have been lying still for a long time ; that they are scattered by squads, companies, and regiments, and not united in brigades or divisions, and under the surveillance of their brigade and division commanders.

Brave as the soldiers may be individually, and with the exception of a few well-drilled and well-disciplined regiments, they have become loose and degenerated by inactivity and garrison life. They may be made soldiers, but at this moment they are very far from understanding their duties. The cavalry force within this department is a mixture of cavalry and mounted infantry. Their number is greatly weakened by their inefficiency. Scattered and scouting over hundreds of miles, in a mountainous region, they suffer in proportion to the arduous duties they have to perform.

In the whole Department of West Virginia, between the Potomac and the Ohio, there are now (according to last return) twelve cavalry regiments, four of them changed from infantry into mounted infantry and cavalry.

A great portion of these forces are on duty in the eastern section of the country, between the Shenandoah and Cacapon Rivers. A weak regiment of mounted infantry, a regiment of cavalry, and a disorganized battalion of cavalry (Ringgold Battalion) are stationed between the upper Potomac and New Creek, two companies between New Creek and Parkersburg, an interval of 180 miles ; the rest of the forces (three regiments) stationed in the Kanawha Valley.

In case of a cavalry raid through the central part of the State, we would hardly have one cavalry regiment for a direct defense, while our infantry could not easily overtake and stop the attacking cavalry forces on account of their being too much scattered on the railroad and on distant points, as Beverly, Bulltown, Burlington, Greenland Gap, &c.

I do not venture to make detailed plans in regard to the best ways of defending the State in case of an attack, or to propose any movements, as such plans would principally depend on the movements in other quarters ; my object is simply to make higher authorities acquainted with the facts stated.

I also take leave to inclose a letter* of Lieutenant-Colonel Froth-

*Not found.

ingham in regard to the condition of the troops in this department, as he had a very good opportunity to make personal observations, besides those made by myself.

I will do the best I can under the circumstances prevailing to make the troops efficient, to defend and strengthen my position, and to protect the people.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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IN FIELD, CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*March* 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. FRANZ SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

My object in ordering General Crook here was with the view of learning from him the character of the country and roads in West Virginia, and to determine the practicability of ordering a co-operative movement from your department, in connection with other movements which will take place from other departments. Whilst the long line of railroad you have to guard may require all the force you have, as opposing armies now stand, for a movement toward the enemy, it looks to me that almost everything except a small force judiciously distributed for the protection of the most important bridges might be spared. I would direct, therefore, that you collect at Beverly all the force you can spare, not less than 8,000 infantry, three batteries of artillery, and 1,500 picked cavalry, to make a southward move. This force is to be exclusive of that now commanded by General Crook. The concentration of this force at Beverly should commence at once, and when ready reported to me by telegraph. I will direct the date of their departure hereafter, and the point at which they will strike, making this movement simultaneous and co-operative with movements elsewhere. Troops should be required to travel as light as possible and to live off the country where it can be done.

In this latter case, however, indiscriminate marauding should be avoided. Nothing should be taken not absolutely necessary for the troops, except when captured from an armed enemy. Impressments should all be made under orders from the commanding officer and by a disbursing officer. Receipts should be given for all property taken, so that the loyal may collect pay and the property be accounted for.

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord is ordered to report to you to be assigned to the command of this expedition. General Averell being acquainted with the country through which your forces will operate, I would suggest that he command the cavalry part of the expedition in person. Every facility should be given General Ord to accumulate at Beverly all the supplies and equipments needed by him. I would suppose that ten days' supply for his command would be required. If you have a pontoon train that, too, might be wanted with the expedition. You will give your own directions in this matter, however, and will no doubt see that the proper supply of war munitions, pioneer tools, &c., are sent.

General Crook will be held in readiness to move at the same time

with General Ord, throwing his infantry south to hold the enemy from coming through the mountain gaps which they now hold, while, with his cavalry, he marches his way through to the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad and destroys it. His route probably should be left to himself. After striking the road he should, however, move eastward, destroying the railroad as he moves, and join General Ord. Once united, this force will be sufficient to choose their own route and time for returning to their base, or for executing such orders as may hereafter be given.

I have ordered two more regiments of cavalry to report at Charleston, W. Va., and if I can, will order infantry to report for the protection of the railroad. I do not see now where infantry is to come from, but will keep it in mind if it can be got.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., March* 29, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that the Twentieth and Twenty-first Regiments Pennsylvania Cavalry, now in the Department of the Susquehanna, may be ordered to report to me for duty in this department.

These regiments were originally six months' troops, and served nearly the whole of their time in this department; were ordered to their State a short time before the expiration of such term to reorganize, and are now ready, as is understood, for active service in the field. Their former experience in this command would render their services more valuable than those of troops who have no acquaintance with the country in which they are to operate; and it is important, in my judgment, that as much cavalry as can readily be spared from adjoining departments be assigned to duty in this.

The cavalry of this command is now stationed in the eastern end of the department and on the Kanawha, with proportionately a small number in Hampshire County, W. Va. There are only two companies in all the counties between the Kanawha and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, from New Creek to Parkersburg, and from Grafton to Summerville and Charleston, and even these are under orders from the War Department to join the Third Virginia Cavalry at Charleston. Strong military reasons, as well as policy, in regard to the extraordinary sufferings of the people in that region from the operations of guerrillas and bushwhackers, suggest the propriety of a compliance with my application, especially as at present no cavalry can be spared from the eastern and more central portion of the department.

In conclusion, I respectfully invite attention to Special Orders, No. 580, of December 1, 1863. War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, and to copy of Special Orders, No. —, of Brigadier-General Kelley, commanding department at that date, showing that these troops have formerly served in this department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. FIRST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., March 29, 1864.*

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of West Virginia:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state, for the information of the major-general commanding, that owing to the order furloughing the Maryland troops who have been guarding the railroad and fords from this point to the Monocacy, and the order prohibiting me from removing my troops from Martinsburg, I am unable to guard the road and fords below so as to prevent smuggling or travel through the lines. At this post, after making the necessary details for guards to the bridges, approaches to the town, and for the Government stores, I have not a man left for any other purpose, not even for the necessary reliefs.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, March 29, 1864.*

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

Deserter from Rosser's brigade reports that he left Rosser at Sperryville a week ago yesterday; other cavalry was encamped near there; they had orders that day to be provided with five days' cooked rations.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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PICKET RESERVE ON WINCHESTER ROAD,
*March 29, 1864.*

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: My scouts report no forces in the valley this side of Harrisonburg, but report that the rebels have shut the blockade and will allow no one to pass either up or down the valley. All is quiet along the lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. W. MILES,
*Captain, Commanding Pickets.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, March 29, 1864.*

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
*Commanding off Newport News:*

ADMIRAL: You may have some interest in the reports of which inclosed telegram will give you the falsity, and I therefore take leave to send it for your information.*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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*See Wistar to Butler, p. 258.

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Commanding Plymouth, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Deeming it highly important that Commander Flusser should have the 100-pounder and 9-inch gun, &c., at the earliest moment, I send them on the steamer Eagle, which please send back, with the latest information.

Your communication has just been presented by Lieutenant Carpenter. The views therein expressed by you and Commander Flusser, U. S. Navy, fully accord with my own. The statement of James bears upon its face so many contradictions that I pronounced it unreliable at once, and am glad to find my judgment sustained by those high in authority and on the spot. It is such men who give information for pay to those who are hundreds of miles away, and who act accordingly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

P. S.—If you can send up reliable men I will at sight pay any reasonable amount that you deem proper.

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND,
*Comdg. Sub-district of the Pamlico, Washington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Everything indicates that New Berne and Plymouth will be attacked when the enemy is fully ready with his iron-clads. They expect to pass Plymouth on high water and get into the sounds with that which is to co-operate with this one at Kinston. In that event your post at Hatteras Inlet will be assailed, since it commands our communications.

A careful inspection ought to be made there, and your 100-pounder and heavy guns be so placed as to command the channels by which the iron-clad must approach. The iron-clad has moved down from Halifax and below Hamilton about the 18th. On the 24th the commander at Plymouth as well as Commander Flusser, U. S. Navy, were looking for an attack.

As no one can tell when and where the blow may fall, all must be ready for the emergency when it comes. Do you think long-range guns can affect Hill's Point from the opposite bank? What is the exact distance?

The slashing between Fort Jack and the river adds materially to your strength by enabling your flank works to cover that side of the river. Reports of forces at Greenville and in your immediate front are conflicting.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Plymouth, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 27th has just reached me, and I attach great weight to the statement of the escaped officer. My spy returned from Kinston last evening. He required at least eight days to get there and back, some 60 miles only. He says the two rams are to act in conjunction, and that we will be attacked after a while, when they are ready. Colonel Cole, who has just made a scout over toward the Chowan, writes to Colonel Mix that we will be attacked at New Berne in a few weeks at the furthest and by a strong force. We must prepare for the worst everywhere, and then we shall make a good fight when the crisis arrives. The enemy expect to have the obstructions wash away by high water, which may happen. Your wish in this respect is greater than ours in the Neuse. The last storm raised the water 3 feet in the river.

What is needed at Roanoke Island to offer the best resistance to the ram in case it passes your position? Can it not be held there, where the channels are so crooked and narrow? Your batteries should be put in shape and the guns arranged for her.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., March 29, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose, for your consideration, an important letter* from General Wessells of the 27th instant, just received, showing the state of affairs in his front.

My spy came in from Kinston last evening, having been out seven days. He says the two iron-clads are to act in conjunction, and when the enemy is ready we will be attacked. The water has risen in this river and the iron-clad is afloat at Kinston. General Harland reports on the 25th a force of from 4,000 to 5,000 men at Greenville and 1,000 at Pactolus. An extract from a private letter* from one of your officers is also inclosed. He has been out on a reconnaissance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 129. } *Washington, March 30, 1864.*

The attention of all officers is called to the Army Regulations and general orders in regard to correspondence on official matters. All such correspondence must be conducted through the proper official channels, except in cases of pressing necessity, which do not leave time for regular communication, and then the necessity must be stated. All applications or correspondence, through whomsoever

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*Not found.

made, in violation of this order, will not be responded to, and the writers will be arrested and tried for disobedience of orders or recommended to the President for dismissal.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *March* 30, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 11.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

I think it advisable that governors of States and commanders of all Northern departments be notified to forward to the field all recruits, new organizations, and all the old troops it is possible to spare from their departments, with the greatest dispatch. They can strip their department to the lowest number of men necessary for the duty to be performed. All veterans should return to the command to which they belonged, except when specially ordered otherwise. All recruits and new organizations from Ohio and States east of it I would advise ordered to assemble at Washington, and those from States west of Ohio to be rendezvoused at Louisville. This of course would not apply to recruits raised for particular corps.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CULPEPER, *March* 30, 1864.
(Received 10 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

I will be in Washington to-morrow on my way to Norfolk. Please notify the quartermaster to have the steamer ready to leave the wharf at 5 p. m.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *March* 30, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 1.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. ORD, *Washington, D. C.:*

Whilst General Sigel commands a department he will have to be treated with confidence. You will therefore deliver the letter addressed to him on your arrival.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 30, 1864. (Received 8.10 p. m.)

Hon. C. A. DANA, *Assistant Secretary of War:*

Your dispatch in relation to furloughing the First and Second Connecticut Artillery has been received and referred to the chief of artillery, who reports that these batteries could not be furloughed without very great inconvenience. They have many men absent

now and heavy details are made from other batteries to keep them in order till the absent men rejoin. Under these circumstances the exigencies of the service will not, in my opinion, admit of the furloughing of the batteries.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 30, 1864.

I. Paragraph 7 of General Orders, No. 100, of November 5, 1863,* from these headquarters, is so far modified as to allow two wall-tents for the officers of a battery.

II. General Orders, No. 30, of March 25, 1863,† and paragraph 8, of General Orders, No. 100, of November 5, 1863,* from these headquarters, are so far modified as to direct that 100 instead of 140 rounds per man of small-arm ammunition be kept constantly on hand, and that three instead of five wagons be furnished to every 1,000 men for the transportation of small-arm ammunition. Forty rounds per man will be carried in the cartridge-boxes.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *March* 30, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

No change in enemy's camps. Can see camp at Barnett's Ford. Water of Rapidan very high. Part of railroad bridge carried away.

CASTLE,
*Signal Officer.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 30, 1864—3 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

One mile west from Raccoon Ford, and one-quarter of a mile in rear of river, enemy are throwing up intrenchments about 100 yards long. Can discover no embrasures, but will report more precisely when atmosphere clears up.

PAINE.

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *March* 30, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, and
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Enemy's camps are seen plainer to-day than usual. Large camp opposite Barnett's Ford distinctly seen. River falling. Smoke seen rising south of Madison Court-House, having appearance of a train of cars moving south.

FULLER,
*Signal Officer.*

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*See Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 421.
†See Vol. XXV, Part II, p. 156.

STONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 30, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

Small force of the enemy are working on rifle-pits between Raccoon and Somerville Fords.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 12. } *March* 30, 1864.

I. The following officers are announced on the staff of the major-general commanding:

Lieut. Col. Francis A. Walker, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. William P. Wilson, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general.

Lieut. Col. C. H. Morgan, assistant inspector-general.

Maj. W. Houghton, Fourteenth Indiana Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general.

Lieut. Col. R. N. Batchelder, chief quartermaster.

Capt. A. H. Young, assistant quartermaster.

Lieut. Col. J. S. Smith, chief commissary of subsistence.

Surg. A. N. Dougherty, U. S. Volunteers, medical director.

Asst. Surg. Charles Smart, Sixty-third New York Volunteers, medical inspector.

Maj. W. G. Mitchell, aide-de-camp.

Capt. I. B. Parker, aide-de-camp.

Capt. W. D. W. Miller, aide-de-camp.

Capt. J. G. Pelton, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers, chief of ambulance corps.

Capt. E. P. Brownson, additional aide-de-camp, commissary of musters.

Capt. H. H. Bingham, One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, judge-advocate.

Maj. S. O. Bull, Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, provost-marshal.

Capt. Alexander M. McCune, Seventy-fourth New York Volunteers, assistant provost-marshal.

Capt. E. C. Cauret, Forty-second New York Volunteers, commanding provost guard.

Capt. I. Thickstun, chief signal officer.

Lieut. William H. R. Neel, acting signal officer.

II. Lieut. Col. C. H. Morgan, assistant inspector-general, is announced as chief of staff to the major-general commanding; he will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

STEVENSBURG, VA., *March* 30, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

We have 4,293 men armed and equipped. We have 3,611 serviceable horses. We have 1,122 dismounted men; 680 of these latter are

armed and equipped, and have been reported for active duty. We have 442 men, including recruits, not fully armed and equipped, and these have not been reported on daily memoranda as present for active duty. I have been in doubt if the 680 should be so reported.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CHARLESTON, *March* 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL:

Union prisoner who just came in my lines from Danville reports the enemy as follows: Lewisburg, few cavalry, main body on Second Creek; Princeton, two companies cavalry; at Narrows, Thirty-sixth and Sixtieth Regiment Infantry, under McCausland (many of his men are on furlough); at Wytheville two companies of infantry; Jeffersonville, two companies Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry. They also report negroes working on the fortification at Saltville. General Williams is in command, with a small force of infantry. Will you please be kind enough to answer my communication concerning the cavalry brigade band, which has been sent more than three weeks ago?

A. N. DUFFIÉ,
*General, Commanding.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, March* 31, 1864.

His Excellency A. G. CURTIN,
*Governor of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Pa.:*

SIR: I am instructed by the Secretary of War to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 4th instant relating to the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, and in reply to say that the regiments of this corps were brought to Washington on urgent application. A part were returned to the Army of the Potomac when their services were required there, and the reason that all were not sent was that they could not all be replaced here. The sending of a part to West Virginia resulted from a military necessity, no other troops being available at the time. The question of returning troops from that department to the Army of the Potomac has been referred to Lieutenant-General Grant for his decision. As regards re-enlistments, I have to say that existing orders require them to be made in the same regiments to which the soldiers belong. The term of service of veterans, as in fact of all soldiers, is calculated from the date of muster into the service of the United States, and not into the service of the State.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. R. S. CANBY,
*Brigadier-General and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *March* 31, 1864.

The following assignments to duty of officers of the quartermaster's department, or doing duty therein, are announced. No changes

will be made in these assignments except upon orders issued or approved at these headquarters:

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

*Second Army Corps.*

Lieut. Col. R. N. Batchelder, chief quartermaster; Capt. C. S. McEntee, assistant chief quartermaster.

First Division, Capt. A. H. Young, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

First Brigade, Capt. Nathan Barker, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Second Brigade, Capt. A. Fisher, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Third Brigade, Capt. C. W. Leffingwell, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Fourth Brigade, Lieut. Jacob Rice, acting assistant quartermaster.

Second Division, Capt. George A. Shallenberger, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

First Brigade, Lieut. C. W. Folsom, acting assistant quartermaster.

Second Brigade, Capt. J. Lockhart, acting assistant quartermaster.

Third Brigade, Capt. George U. Meade, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Third Division, Capt. George W. Johnes, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

First Brigade, Capt. W. D. Vatchet, acting assistant quartermaster.

Second Brigade, Capt. T. P. Johnston, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Fourth Division, Capt. R. P. Johnson, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

First Brigade, Lieut. Miles Farwell, acting assistant quartermaster.

Second Brigade, Capt. I. C. Abbott, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Artillery Brigade, Capt. W. H. D. Cochrane, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

*Fifth Army Corps.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. Owen, chief quartermaster; Lieut. A. T. Houden, assistant chief quartermaster.

First Division, Capt. A. L. Thomas, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

First Brigade, Capt. S. R. Hamill, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Second Brigade, Capt. S. I. Wright, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Third Brigade, Capt. S. W. Hoskins, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Second Division, Capt. R. C. Swope, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

First Brigade, Capt. S. B. Bean, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Second Brigade, Capt. S. B. Roney, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Third Brigade, Lieut. T. McDonald, acting assistant quartermaster.
Third Division, Capt. E. B. W. Restieaux, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Capt. S. Yardley, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Third Brigade, Capt. R. G. Staples, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Fourth Division, Capt. M. H. Mandeville, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Capt. J. B. Winslow, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Second Brigade, Capt. E. P. Fitch, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Third Brigade, Lieut. A. S. Voorhis, acting assistant quartermaster.
Artillery Brigade, Capt. J. D. Cruttenden, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

*Sixth Army Corps.*

Lieut. Col. C. W. Tolles, chief quartermaster; Capt. J. H. Platt, jr., assistant chief quartermaster.
First Division, Capt. S. H. Manning, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Lieut. F. Sayre, acting assistant quartermaster.
Second Brigade, Capt. W. H. Daniels, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Third Brigade, Capt. Charles G. Finney, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Fourth Brigade, Lieut. George W. Ford, acting assistant quartermaster.
Second Division, Capt. John K. Russell, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Capt. James T. Wray, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Second Brigade, Lieut. A. Austin, acting assistant quartermaster.
Third Brigade, Lieut. C. B. Whittemore, acting assistant quartermaster.
Fourth Brigade, Capt. H. W. Persing, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Third Division, Capt. I. W. Hart, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Capt. M. H. Goodridge, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Second Brigade, Capt. J. F. Hazelton, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Artillery Brigade, Capt. W. H. Lambert, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

*Cavalry Corps.*

Lieut. Col. J. B. Howard, acting chief quartermaster.
First Division, Capt. J. H. Tallman, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Lieut. John Patton, acting assistant quartermaster.
Second Brigade, Lieut. J. B. Wheeler, acting assistant quartermaster.

Reserve Brigade, Lieut. William Dean, acting assistant quartermaster.
Second Division, Capt. R. R. Corson, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Lieut. L. W. Knight, acting assistant quartermaster.
Second Brigade, Lieut. J. K. Robinson, acting assistant quartermaster.
Third Division, Capt. M. I. Ludington, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
First Brigade, Lieut. J. G. Viall, acting assistant quartermaster.
Second Brigade, Capt. George W. Wells, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

*Reserve Artillery.*

Capt. W. E. Morford, assistant quartermaster of volunteers, chief quartermaster; Lieut. E. H. Welch, assistant chief quartermaster.
First Brigade, Horse Artillery, Capt. William Goldie, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.
Second Brigade, Horse Artillery, Capt. Ira F. Payson, assistant quartermaster of volunteers.

Officers whose positions are changed by the foregoing arrangement, will at once report for duty with the commands to which they have been assigned.
By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*March* 31, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Maj. T. M. VINCENT:

The total re-enlistment of veterans up to and including the 28th instant in this army was 26,767.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
*March* 31, 1864—10.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following report has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded:

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*March* 31, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Enemy's camps are seen plainer to-day than usual. Large camp opposite Barnett's Ford distinctly seen. Nothing unusual occurring. River is falling. A smoke seen rising south of Madison Court-House, having the appearance of a train of cars moving south.

FULLER,
*Signal Officer.*

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
*Captain and Chief Signal Officer.*

PONY MOUNTAIN, *March* 31, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

Enemy are making extensive additions to their old lines at Raccoon Ford. At the right of the ford a new battery has been placed in position, and I judge at least two regiments to be at work this a. m. in extending the line reported yesterday 200 yards toward a ravine that runs perpendicular to the river, midway between Raccoon and Somerville Fords.

PAINE,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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SIGNAL STATION AT STONY MOUNTAIN,
*March* 31, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

About 100 of the enemy at work this morning on fortifications near Somerville Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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*Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of March*, 1864.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters *a* | 130 | 1,486 | 2,040 | 2,901 | ... | ... |
| Engineer troops | 39 | 2,092 | 2,456 | 2,928 | ... | ... |
| Artillery Reserve | 132 | 4,227 | 4,868 | 5,775 | 8 | 54 |
| Horse Artillery | 29 | 1,033 | 1,236 | 1,594 | ... | 60 |
| Second Army Corps | 1,015 | 22,862 | 26,507 | 43,035 | ... | 26 |
| Fifth Army Corps | 1,065 | 21,812 | 28,650 | 40,025 | ... | 64 |
| Sixth Army Corps *b* | 974 | 22,546 | 27,883 | 33,823 | ... | 52 |
| Cavalry Corps | 477 | 13,249 | 17,184 | 28,458 | ... | ... |
| Grand total | 3,861 | 89,307 | 110,824 | 158,539 | 8 | 256 |

*a* Includes guards and orderlies, signal corps, and provost guard.
*b* Shaler's brigade absent on detached service at Johnson's Island, Ohio.

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*Report of men present for instant and active service in the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac, March* 31, 1864.

| | Cavalry. | | Artillery. | | Serviceable horses. | Unserviceable horses. | Dismounted men. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| First Division | 119 | 2,018 | 3 | 154 | 2,858 | 539 | 1,300 |
| Second Division | 159 | 3,294 | 3 | 177 | 3,803 | 699 | 1,652 |
| Third Division | 156 | 3,404 | 3 | 193 | 3,885 | 780 | 1,219 |
| Total | 434 | 8,716 | 9 | 524 | 10,546 | 2,018 | 4,171 |

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.,
*March* 31, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 2.35 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR,
*Washington:*

I have taken prisoner a man trying to reach the rebel army. He confesses that a party to which he belongs will try and cross the Potomac near the mouth of Monocacy or below. They will leave Baltimore. I have notified General Wallace to arrest the parties if possible, sending him the names.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *March* 31, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Headquarters Army in the Field:*

Major-General Ord has arrived. I will send report by messenger.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, *March* 31, 1864.

Capt. WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The condition of the roads are such that I deem it advisable to put the Halltown railroad in repair. I have nearly enough iron and ties; only want men to lay it. Would it be consistent for you to order Colonel Taylor to detail 150 dismounted men to assist?

R. S. GARDNER,
*Captain, Assistant Quartermaster.*

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*ITINERARY OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.**

CAVALRY CORPS.†

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt.*

During the month the division was encamped in the vicinity of Culpeper Court-House, engaged in picketing from below Raccoon Ford, on the Rapidan River, to the vicinity of Hazel River.

*Second Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Thomas C. Devin, Sixth New York Cavalry.*

*March* 1 *to* 31.—Picketed from Stone House Mountain, 5 miles in front of Culpeper, on the right, to the James City road, on the left, 8 miles.

*March* 15.—A detachment of 400 men of this brigade, under Maj. William P. Hall, Sixth New York Cavalry, returned from an expe-

* From returns of the commands indicated for March, 1864.

† Commanded by Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton to March 25; then (temporarily) by Brig. Gen. David McM. Gregg.

dition on the Peninsula under General Kilpatrick. The detachment destroyed 2 bridges, 1 locomotive, and a train of 15 cars. Loss, 1 man killed, 1 wounded, and 3 prisoners.

*Second Division, commanded by Col. J. Irvin Gregg, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

*March* 1 *to* 3.—Headquarters division, General Gregg commanding, at Stevensburg, Va.

*March* 4.—Returned to camp at Warrenton, Va.; headquarters First Brigade, Lieut. Col. D. Gardner commanding, at Warrenton; headquarters Second Brigade, Col. P. Huey commanding, between Warrenton and Warrenton Junction. The portion of this command detached with General Custer returned to-day, without any serious loss excepting a few horses worn out with fatigue.

*March* 5 *to* 8.—Quiet; nothing unusual occurring.

*March* 9.—Scout of 40 men from the Thirteenth Pennsylvania were attacked by the enemy in vicinity of Greenwich; the attacking party comprised a portion of Mosby's guerrillas and some of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry; casualties, 9 captured.

*March* 10.—Quiet.

*March* 11.—A scout of 75 men from the Eighth Pennsylvania scouted thoroughly the country in the vicinity of Auburn; no trace of the enemy.

*March* 12 *to* 15.—Quiet. That portion of this command detached with General Kilpatrick returned by way of Alexandria in detachments. In the detachment of First Maine the casualties are 52 killed, wounded, and missing, and the number of serviceable horses was reduced from 556 to 273.

*March* 16 *to* 18.—Quiet.

*March* 19.—Quiet. Maj. W. A. Corrie, with 126 men of the Eighth Pennsylvania, scouted and picketed in the vicinity of Greenwich; no trace of the enemy to be found.

*March* 20 *to* 25.—Quiet. Major-General Pleasonton relieved from command of Cavalry Corps, Special Orders, No. 75, Army of Potomac; Brigadier-General Gregg assumed command.

*March* 26 *to* 31.—Quiet; nothing worthy of note occurring.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. John P. Taylor, First Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

At the commencement of the present month all the available officers and men in this brigade were absent on detached duty with General Custer, on a scouting expedition toward Charlottesville, Va. This expedition was successful, and returned without any loss, except a few horses worn out with fatigue. Although one regiment, the First Rhode Island, has been relieved from duty with the brigade, yet its strength has been greatly augmented by a new battalion for the First Massachusetts Cavalry, two new companies for the Sixth Ohio Cavalry, and several hundred of recruits. The brigade still occupies its old camp in the immediate vicinity of Warrenton, doing picket duty around the town, and forming a junction with the picket-line of the Second Brigade. Nothing further of any importance to record, except that the picket-line has not been troubled so much by Mosby this month as the preceding one.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Charles H. Smith, First Maine Cavalry.*

FIRST MAINE CAVALRY.

At the commencement of the month 300 men, commanded by Major Taylor, were absent with General Kilpatrick on his raid toward Richmond, and 84 men, commanded by Major Thaxter, were picketing the Rapidan in the vicinity of Ely's Ford. During the absence of General Custer's command 150 of Major Taylor's command were subsequently detailed to accompany Colonel Dahlgren, and reached the main body again with a loss of 45 men in killed, wounded, and missing. The detachment experienced some spirited fighting and much severe marching, and arrived in camp in detachments, mounted and dismounted, via Alexandria. By these active operations the number of serviceable horses present was reduced from 556 to 273. The casualties in the detachments with General Kilpatrick and Colonel Dahlgren were 52 killed, wounded, and missing. Once during the month a party of 50 and once a party of 100 men have relieved like details on Morrisville road for three days' picket; otherwise daily picket detail has been 1 commissioned officer and 31 men.

*March* 21.—Fifty men, commanded by Captain Vaughn, went on a scout to Auburn and vicinity.

*March* 25.—Another party of 50 men, commanded by Captain Myrick, went on scout to Auburn. Sixty-two recruits have been received during the month. If called upon to take the field at once the deficiency in horses would compel the regiment to march with half its strength of fighting men. Number of miles traveled: Major Taylor's command, 300 miles; Major Thaxter's, 50 miles; Captain Vaughn's, 10 miles, and Captain Myrick's, 10 miles; total, 370 miles.

TENTH NEW YORK CAVALRY.

*March* 6.—Headquarters near Warrenton, Va. Veteran organization returned from State of New York, having recruited about 250 men; 150 have already reported to the regiment; balance are at Camp Stoneman awaiting equipments. Regiment has made one scout during the month and captured 4 prisoners. The duty has been mostly picket and scouting; average number of miles marched, 60. No casualties during the month; small-pox reported in the regiment last month has entirely disappeared. Condition of horses improving.

SIXTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

Captain Snyder, Lieutenants Swank and Roberts, with 96 men, returned from the command of General Kilpatrick, having been on raid to Richmond, with loss of Private John Mehaffey, of Company F. During the month regiment did picketing at Morrisville, of 100 men and 3 officers at each detail.

THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

*March* 9.—A scout of 40 men, under the command of Lieutenant White, was attacked by the enemy in the vicinity of Greenwich. The party making the attack was composed of the Fourth Virginia

Cavalry, Chincapin Rangers, and a detachment of Mosby's command. The casualties numbered 9, all taken prisoners; 4 wounded, now in hospital at Washington, D. C.

EIGHTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

*March* 1 *to* 11.—In camp near Warrenton, Va.

*March* 11.—Capt. A. B. Wells and 75 men left camp at 4 p. m. and proceeded to Auburn, scouting thoroughly the country to that place; returned to camp 6 p. m., having found no trace of the enemy.

*March* 15.—Lieut. Samuel L. Moore and 40 men went to Morrisville, scouting the country from that place to Grove Church; captured 4 men, one of whom supposed to be a deserter to the enemy.

*March* 19.—Maj. W. A. Corrie, with 126 men, went to Greenwich, picketing and scouting the roads leading to that place and country in the vicinity, but no trace of the enemy could be found.

*March* 21.—Capt. H. H. Garrett, with 100 men and Lieutenants McCool and Fletcher, relieved a party of the First Maine Cavalry, on picket at Bealeton Station; returned the 24th.

FOURTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

The detachment of men absent with General Kilpatrick on his raid to Richmond returned safely to camp, with the loss of 4 men captured; 149 men have received individual furloughs for thirty-five days as veteran volunteers, and six companies (A, D, F, H, I, and M) have gone to Pennsylvania as veteran organizations, accompanied by their officers. A large number of recruits have been received from the various depots in Pennsylvania.

SECOND PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

*March* 1 *to* 31.—In camp near Warrenton, Va.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick.*

*March* 1.—At 1 a. m. the command broke camp near South Anna; marched to Ashland, where a large force of the enemy's infantry, with artillery, was encountered; a portion of the command was sent to attack this force; the main column passed on and crossed the South Anna at daylight; destroyed a culvert, tore up the railroad below Ashland, and reached the Brook pike, 5 miles from Richmond, at 10 a. m.; engaged the enemy outside the city at 12 m. and drove him inside the fortifications; moved across the Chickahominy at dark; destroyed the railroad bridges on the Virginia Central, and went into camp near Mechanicsville; was attacked at 10 p. m. by infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and after one hour's hard fighting repulsed the enemy and drove him toward Hanover Court-House.

*March* 2.—At 1 a. m. moved toward Old Church and went into camp 12 miles from that point; was attacked by the enemy at daylight; at 8 a. m. moved to Old Church and remained until 1 p. m.; went into camp near Tunstall's Station at dark.

*March* 3.—Marched early in the morning to New Kent Court-House; met a force sent out by General Butler; went into camp at dark 12 miles from Williamsburg.

*March* 4.—Moved to Yorktown and went into camp; at 11 p. m. a portion of the command embarked on transports for Portsmouth.

*March 7 and* 8.—Returned to Yorktown.

*March 9 and 10.*—The First Brigade embarked for Alexandria; reached Stevensburg March 14.

A portion of the Second Brigade started on an expedition to King and Queen Court-House March 9; returned to Gloucester Point March 12, and embarked for Alexandria same day; reached camp at Stevensburg March 19.

The command is doing picket duty from Stringfellow's house, on the Rapidan, to Kemper's Dam, on the Rappahannock. A detachment of 250 men is stationed at Grove Church.

*First Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry E. Davies, jr.*

*March 1.*—At 12.30 a. m. broke camp at South Anna, Va.; marched all night, arriving before Richmond at 12.30 p. m.; engaged the enemy at once in his second line of fortifications: encountered strong resistance from heavy siege guns and musketry; left before Richmond at 4 p. m.; destroyed the bridge in our rear; encamped near Meadow Bridge, 6 miles from Richmond; enemy attacked with cavalry, infantry, and two guns; at 11 p. m. broke camp; marched until 3 a. m.; went into camp again.

*March 2.*—Took the road toward Pamunkey River; annoyed in the fore part of the day by some cavalry in our rear; sent one squadron of the command to charge, which put the enemy to flight instantly, capturing 3 prisoners and wounding several. Capt. J. F. B. Mitchell, Second New York Cavalry, with 250 men of Colonel Dahlgren's command, here cut his way through and joined the main command; impossible to cross the Pamunkey; marched on toward White House, encamping for the night at Tunstall's Station.

*March 3.*—Met at a short distance from the station a force of cavalry and negro infantry, under command of Colonel Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry; passed through New Kent Court-House and encamped at Twelve-Mile Ordinary in the night.

*March 4.*—Marched through Williamsburg to Yorktown; went into camp.

*March 5, 11 p. m.*—Broke camp; started on transports to Portsmouth, Va.

*March 6.*—Marched 5 miles toward Suffolk and returned, encamping for the night near Portsmouth.

*March 7 and 8.*—Embarked again for Gloucester Point, going into camp.

*March 9 and 10.*—Embarked on transports for Alexandria.

*March 12.*—Left Alexandria; marched to Bull Run, Rappahannock Station, and Stevensburg, arriving March 14 at 3 p. m. The command is doing picket duty on the extreme left and front of the army from Germanna Ford to Kemper's Dam, and furnishes besides every six days 250 men to Grove Church on picket.

*Second Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Lieut. Col. Addison W. Preston, First Vermont Cavalry.*

*February 28.*—The brigade left camp near Stevensburg; crossed the Rapidan at 1 a. m.

*February 29.*—Passed through Spotsylvania Court-House and arrived at Beaver Dam Station, on the Virginia Central Railroad, at sundown; aided in destroying railroad and depot buildings. A de-

tachment of 200 men from the First Vermont and Fifth Michigan Cavalry was sent to report to Colonel Dahlgren early in the morning, and formed a part of that officer's command in his raid and attack on Richmond.

*March* 1.—Crossed the Pamunkey at daylight; arrived in front of Richmond on the afternoon of the same day, and took position within the outer fortifications of the city. The battery of this brigade opened on the rebels, throwing over 100 shots; withdrew at night across the Chickahominy and encamped; camp shelled by the enemy.

*March* 2.—Returned toward Tunstall's Station; rear guard attacked near Old Church; enemy repulsed.

*March* 4.—Arrived at Yorktown.

*March* 6.—Shipped on transports for Portsmouth; disembarked the same day and encamped.

*March* 7.—Reshipped and sailed for Gloucester Point.

*March* 9.—Marched in direction of King and Queen Court-House; encamped near Sheppard's Wharf.

*March* 10.—Moved up to Little Plymouth; encamped near the Piankatank River.

*March* 12.—Returned to Gloucester Point and shipped for Alexandria.

*March* 19.—Returned to camp near Stevensburg, Va.

*Cavalry Reserve Brigade, commanded by Col. Alfred Gibbs, First New York Dragoons.*

During the month of March the brigade has remained in camp near Mitchell's Station, Va., picketing a front of about 8 miles in extent and guarding a signal station located upon Cedar Mountain. The First U. S. Cavalry, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, and Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, supposed when the monthly return for February was made out to have been transferred to General Kilpatrick's command, were engaged in the raid to Charlottesville under Brigadier-General Custer. Having been returned to the brigade they are now taken up upon this report as a gain.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

*March* 1.—In camp near Stevensburg; Major-General Warren in command.

*March* 4 *to* 12.—Major-General Warren on leave; Brigadier-General Caldwell in command.

*March* 24.—Major-General Hancock resumed command of corps.

*March* 26.—Reorganization of the corps effected in General Orders, No. 11, Second Army Corps.

*March* 31.—In camp near Stevensburg.

*First Division, commanded by Col. Paul Frank, Fifty-second New York Infantry.*

In accordance with the requirements of General Orders, No. 11, of March 26, from headquarters Second Corps, the following accessions were made to the command, and reported as required in said order: Thirty-ninth, One hundred and eleventh, One hundred and twenty-fifth, and One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Volunteers assigned to Third Brigade. The Sixth Minnesota Volunteers, assigned to First Brigade, has not yet reported.

*First Brigade, First Division, commanded by Lieut. Col. K. Oscar Broady, Sixty-first New York Infantry.*

The One hundred and eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers assigned to duty in this brigade, per General Orders, No. 11, March 25, 1864, from headquarters Second Army Corps; strength, 28 commissioned officers and 654 enlisted men.

*Third Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Paul Frank, Fifty-second New York Infantry.*

In accordance with General Orders, No. 11, headquarters Second Army Corps, dated March 25, 1864, the Sixty-sixth New York Volunteers and One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania were transferred to the Fourth Brigade, First Division, Second Army Corps, and the Thirty-ninth, One hundred and eleventh, and One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers were attached to this command from the late Third Brigade, Third Division, Second Army Corps.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Turner G. Morehead, One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Infantry.*

During the month in camp near Stevensburg, Va., March 1 to 18, the brigade was commanded by Col. R. Penn Smith, Seventy-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, March 18 to 26 by Lieut. Col. Charles Kochersperger, Seventy-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, March 26 to 31 by Col. T. G. Morehead, One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers. On the 26th instant the One hundred and fifty-second Regiment New York Volunteers added to the brigade, in pursuance of General Orders No. 11, headquarters Second Army Corps.

*Third Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. David B. Birney.*

*March* 1.—The division lay in bivouac at James City, near Thoroughfare Mountain, Va.

*March* 2.—Under orders it returned to its winter quarters near Culpeper, on Rixey's farm.

Nothing from this until March 31, when, under orders from headquarters Second Corps, the division changed camp with the Third Division, Sixth Corps, and now is on both sides of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, about 1 mile south of Brandy Station.

*Fourth Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Carr.*

*March* 24.—This division was this day organized from the former Second Division, Third Corps, and Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Carr assigned to the command.

*March* 31.—The division still remains in camp near Brandy Station, Va. Nothing further has occurred worthy of note up to this date.

## FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

In pursuance of General Orders, No. 115, War Department, March 23, 1864, the Fifth Corps was consolidated into two divisions, by uniting Second with the First; the new divisions were numbered

First and Third. The First Corps was likewise consolidated into two divisions, and numbered Second and Fourth. The headquarters of the corps were removed to Culpeper Court-House on the 25th, where they now are.

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph J. Bartlett.*

*March 1 to April 1.*—The command remained in camp near Rappahannock Station, Va., performing the usual camp and picket duty.

*First Brigade; First Division, commanded by Col. William S. Tilton, Twenty-second Massachusetts Infantry.*

*March 1 to 31.*—This command remained in camp at Beverly Ford, Va., performing the usual camp and picket duty.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John C. Robinson.*

No change of headquarters since last return. By virtue of General Orders, No. 7, headquarters Fifth Army Corps, dated March 25, 1864, this division was designated Second Division, Fifth Army Corps, under the provisions of General Orders, No. 115, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, promulgated in General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Army of the Potomac, dated March 24, 1864.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Samuel H. Leonard, Thirteenth Massachusetts Infantry.*

During the month the brigade has been encamped at Mitchell's Station, Culpeper County, Va., performing outpost duty.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry Baxter.*

*March 1.*—Stationed at Culpeper Court-House, Va.; remained in same camp during the month.

*Third Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Nathan T. Dushane, First Maryland Infantry.*

In pursuance of General Orders, No. 7, headquarters Fifth Army Corps, March 25, 1864, this brigade was transferred to the Second Division, First Army Corps, and designated as Third Brigade, Second Division, Fifth Army Corps.

*First Brigade, Fourth Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Lysander Cutler.*

*March 6.*—The Seventy-sixth New York Volunteers transferred to the Second Brigade, by General Orders, No. 18, March 5, from First Division, First Army Corps.

*March 24.*—The brigade, with the rest of First Corps, transferred to Fifth Corps, by General Orders, No. 10, Army of the Potomac.

*March 25.*—First Division announced as Fourth Division of Fifth Corps, by General Orders, No. 7, headquarters Fifth Corps.

*March 29.*—Brigade, as part of division, reviewed by Lieutenant-General Grant.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS.

*March* 1.—At Madison Court-House.

*March* 2.—Marched back to former camp near Welford's Ford, where we remained throughout the month.

*First Brigade, First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred T. A. Torbert.*

*March* 1.—Left Madison Court-House at night, following the cavalry of Brigadier-General Custer, a small force of the enemy keeping in our rear, but making no attack. Crossed Robertson River at Russell's Ford and bivouacked about three-fourths of a mile from the river.

*March* 2.—Broke camp at 8 a. m. and marched via Culpeper Court-House to camp near Welford's Ford, Va., a distance of 22 miles.

*Second Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Emory Upton, One hundred and twenty-first New York Infantry.*

Nothing worthy of special notice has occurred during the month. The brigade still occupies its camp near Welford's Ford, Va.

*Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. George W. Getty.*

*March* 2.—Marched from camp near Robertson River to old camp near Brandy Station and remained during the month.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Frank Wheaton.*

*March* 29.—Joined the Army of the Potomac, having been detached from it and attached to the First Division, Department of West Virginia, at Harper's Ferry, Va.

*Third Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Neill.*

*March* 2.—Broke camp at Robertson River and marched back to our camp near Brandy Station, Va.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry Prince.*

*March* 31.—The camp of this division was changed to the camp formerly occupied by Major-General Birney's division.

*Second Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. David A. Russell.*

By General Orders, No. 14, headquarters Sixth Army Corps, the brigade was organized to consist of the regiments of the Second Brigade and the Sixty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, and the One hundred and twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteers, of the Third Brigade, Third Division, under the Third Corps organization, which was broken up.

*March* 31.—Received orders to change camp with Major-General Birney's division, which was accomplished during the forenoon of that day.

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 1, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Weather very hazy. Can see nothing but enemy's pickets on Robertson River.

FULLER,
*Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 1, 1864.

Colonel SMITH, *Chief of Staff:*

A dispatch from Major Hammond, commanding detachment at Grove Church, reports all quiet. A skirmish occurred yesterday near Hartwood Church between a patrol and a party of bushwhackers, in which 4 men were wounded.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* [1], 1864—1 p. m.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Citizens inform my officers in command of outposts at Grove Church that all rebel troops on that side of the river have been ordered back. They give as a reason anticipated movements.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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DETROIT, *April* 1, 1864.

Capt. SAMUEL WRIGHT, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Give special instructions to officers to hurry forward the regiments as fast as possible, via Pennsylvania Central Railroad, to Harrisburg and thence to Annapolis.

O. B. WILLCOX,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 1, 1864.
(Received 3.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

General Averell wishes to go with me to consult Lieutenant-General Grant. It is important.

E. O. C. ORD,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 1, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General ORD, *Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

General Averell has permission to visit Washington to meet General Grant.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *April* 1, 1864.

Colonel WELLS:

The Thirty-fourth Massachusetts will move with all their camp and garrison equipage to this place. The One hundred and twenty-third Ohio will move with all their camp and garrison equipage to garrison the road between Harper's Ferry and Monocacy. I want to see you.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 1, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Division, New Creek:*

Order the Fourteenth Virginia Infantry immediately to New Creek from Burlington. The Twenty-third Illinois shall occupy Greenland Gap with one portion of the regiment, and the rest shall occupy Burlington. Prepare all your infantry and Captain Carlin's battery, with the exception of the Twenty-third Illinois and the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania, to move on the 3d instant, and one regiment with the battery to move to-morrow. The troops will move by rail, with overcoats, blankets, knapsacks, shelter-tents, and 60 rounds of ammunition. Your headquarters will remain in New Creek. Make all your preparations immediately, and report to me your progress.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 1, 1864.

Col. JAMES A. MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Division, New Creek, W. Va.:*

COLONEL: From information received it is necessary to assemble a considerable force in front of our lines, and in accordance with the general arrangement, all your infantry and one of your batteries (Captain Carlin's, First Virginia) will be moved by railroad to Webster, to proceed to the point of concentration. You will, however, retain the Twenty-third Illinois at Greenland Gap and Burlington, as indicated in my telegram of this morning. The troops should and must begin to move to-morrow by rail. They will take their overcoats and blankets, shelter-tents, and knapsacks, with cooking utensils and one suit of underclothing, and must be prepared to carry five days' short rations in their knapsacks and haversacks. They must be provided with 60 rounds of ammunition. Transportation and provisions will be furnished to them on requisitions at Webster, and in accordance with General Orders, No. 274, 1863, War Department.

As I informed you this morning, the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania will be retained here, also the rest of the batteries, and all the cavalry will remain in their present positions. The Sixth Virginia Infantry will guard the railroad from Parkersburg to New Creek, and Colonel Wilkinson has to be instructed accordingly. The Fifty-fourth will occupy, with one-half of its strength, the railroad line from Cumberland to Hancock, leaving the other half as a reserve

and for special duty at Cumberland. The Twelfth Virginia will be embarked here, and must be ordered to be ready day after to-morrow. The Fifteenth Virginia may be concentrated on a suitable point on the railroad and embark there. Reports from all the regiments must be made to the chief quartermaster of the wagons and other material left behind, and an officer and guard left with them until received. The two pieces of artillery now reported to be at Webster have to be sent to Beverly to join Captain Keeper's battery. They will follow such troops as are intended by me to proceed to Beverly from Webster. Every effort should be made to have the troops prepared in time, so that no delay occurs and the enemy given no opportunity to interfere with and interrupt our movements. Your headquarters will remain at New Creek; department headquarters at Cumberland.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 1, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Division, New Creek:*

Your dispatch is received. Order transportation. I learn that cars will arrive to-night at New Creek, which can take two regiments early in the morning.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., April* 1, 1864.

Col. R. F. TAYLOR,
*Commanding First Brigade:*

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you send 200 men under a reliable officer to Point of Rocks to arrest and bring to these headquarters Captain Means and his battalion. The officer will be directed to act with coolness and discretion, but he will be authorized to use any force that may be necessary to execute the above order.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General CROOK,
*Commanding Division, Charleston:*

Have you received your instructions direct from the general commanding the Army or not? If not, you will immediately prepare your command to move, and make the proper arrangements to remove your stores and material, not following your troops. Answer by telegraph, and send report by letter and special messenger.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington, April* 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

General Weitzel will be relieved from duty in the Department of the Gulf, and ordered to report to you for assignment to duty.

By order of the Secretary of War:

JAMES A. HARDIE,
*Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 2, 1864—11.30 a. m.
(Received 11.55 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

I should have been in Washington to-day but for a storm, still raging to such an extent as to make navigation in the Chesapeake unsafe. I leave here as soon as the storm subsides.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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SIGNAL STATION, GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN,
*April* 2, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

No change in enemy's camps.

FULLER,
*Signal Officer.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: In compliance with instructions which have been received from Major-General Humphreys, chief of staff, Army of the Potomac, the general commanding directs that you withdraw temporarily the detachment of your command at Grove Church to some point near Morrisville. The supplies for this detachment can be drawn from Bealeton.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. B. PARSONS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 2, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Army in the Field:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report:

The two Maryland regiments at Harper's Ferry having been furloughed on the 29th, as General Sullivan informs me, there can be assembled at Beverly only 5,635 men, infantry, leaving six regiments

on the railroad from Parkersburg to Monocacy, some of them very small, which is the minimum number necessary to guard the road, as may be seen from three letters of General Sullivan, which I send inclosed.*

The following regiments are left on the road:

The Sixth Virginia, from Parkersburg to Oakland, with a small reserve at Clarksburg. This regiment was raised and organized under the proviso to guard the railroad and was never in the field. There are twenty-eight block-houses on that line.

The Twenty-third Illinois, Colonel Mulligan's old regiment, the remnant of the Irish Brigade, from Oakland to New Creek, with reserve at New Creek.

The Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania, from Cumberland to Hancock, reserve at Cumberland. This regiment was never in the field.

The One hundred and sixteenth Ohio, from Hancock to Harper's Ferry.

The One hundred and twenty-third Ohio, from Harper's Ferry to Monocacy bridge.

The Thirty-fourth Massachusetts, at Harper's Ferry and Maryland Heights.

The following regiments are in motion or preparing to move:

The First Virginia, 700 officers and men effective, arrived at Webster.

The Tenth Virginia, 500 officers and men effective, at Beverly.

The Eleventh Virginia, 707 officers and men effective, en route from Clarksburg and Bulltown to Beverly.

The Thirteenth Virginia, 700 officers and men effective, at Cumberland, will embark to-morrow.

The Fourteenth Virginia, 602 officers and men effective, just arrived at New Creek from Burlington, to be embarked to Webster.

The Fifteenth Virginia, 800 officers and men effective, at Sir John's Run, will embark to-morrow.

The Third and Fourth Pennsylvania [Reserves], 850 officers and men effective, to move from Harper's Ferry under General Sullivan to-night or to-morrow morning.

The Twenty-eighth Ohio, 360 officers and men effective, at Beverly. Of this regiment, 258 men have left on veteran furlough the 24th of last month. I would propose that this regiment may be retained for the present, if possible.

The Second Maryland at New Creek, but many on furlough, 416 officers and men effective. This regiment cannot leave New Creek before the 7th or 8th.

Total effective force of infantry, ten regiments, 5,635 officers and men.

The infantry will be under command of General Sullivan, the senior general officer in this department, and will be formed into two or three brigades. The artillery is prepared and will be at Beverly at the same time. General Averell is informed in regard to the cavalry, and written orders were sent to him yesterday. Transportation, provisions, ambulance corps, engineer tools, and a small pontoon train will be ready, and every effort made to have the troops properly equipped and provided for. All the troops and trains will start from the two points, Webster and Clarksburg.

I would respectfully request to be informed to whom I shall send

* Not found as inclosures.

my letters and telegrams in regard to movements of the enemy and our own troops, when they are not in answer to your direct communications. I was instructed by Major Kelton, assistant adjutant-general, to send my communications to the Adjutant-General of the Army, but I confess that I am anxious to know the name of the officer at Washington to whom confidential dispatches and letters have to be sent by me at the present time, so that there may be no delay and confusion. I am perfectly satisfied with whatever instructions may be given to me in this matter, but as there might exist some misunderstanding on my part, I feel it my duty to apply to you, to be made aware of your wishes.

I am, general, very respectfully,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 2, 1864.
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. D. RAMSAY,
*Chief of Ordnance:*

Please send immediately 450,000 rounds of cartridges, caliber .58, and 50,000 rounds, caliber .54, to Webster, near Grafton, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Invoice to Capt. John Carlin, chief of artillery and ordnance of this department. Formal requisition will be sent by mail. Please acknowledge receipt.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Commanding Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

The general commanding ordered all the transportation to be collected at Harper's Ferry, and directs that you require the railroad company [to furnish] sufficient of it to move your command west. He agrees with you in regard to the unprotected state in which the railroad will be left, but cannot help it.

C. A. FREEMAN,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 2, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Division, New Creek:*

Order the company of the Fifteenth Virginia now at Burlington to join their regiment at Beverly. Order, also, the company of the Eleventh Virginia from Weston to Beverly. The companies of the Eleventh Virginia at Bulltown have to join their regiment at Beverly. The companies of the Sixth Virginia now at Bulltown have to stay there until further orders.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. CHIEF OF CAVALRY, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, April 2*, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*Commanding Division, New Creek, W. Va.:*

Please inform me whether the cavalry ordered yesterday by Major-General Sigel to proceed to Romney and Little Cacapon bridge was sent and whether you have heard from them.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

---

NEW CREEK, *April 2*, 1864—8.50 p. m.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

Cavalry ordered out last midnight not yet heard from.

JAS. A. MULLIGAN.

---

CHAMBERSBURG, *April 2*, 1864.
(Received 9.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. JULIUS STAHEL,
*Cumberland:*

The Twentieth Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry left Chambersburg at 4 p. m., 1st instant, en route for Charleston. They were neither mounted, except one squadron, nor armed, except with sabers. Requisitions for horses and ordnance stores required for the regiment are in the hands of Brigadier-General Wilson and General Ramsay.

By command of Major-General Couch.

Respectfully,

JOHN S. SCHULTZE,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* [2], 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Commanding Cavalry Division:*

Have you any indication or information of movement of the enemy against our lines? Answer immediately.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April 2*, 1864.

Brigadier-General CROOK,
*Charleston:*

I sent a telegram yesterday. Please answer.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April 2, 1864.*

Brigadier-General CROOK,
*Charleston, W. Va.:*

Have you received my telegram of yesterday requesting information whether you have received instructions from General Grant or not, and ordering you to have your command in readiness for active service?

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. HDQRS. MIDDLE DEPT., 8TH A. C.,
*Baltimore, Md., April 2, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. Daniel Tyler is hereby relieved from command of the District of Delaware, and at the expiration of his present leave of absence will report by letter to these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Wallace:

SAMUEL B. LAWRENCE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 21. HDQRS. MIDDLE DEPT., 8TH A. C.,
*Baltimore, Md., April 2, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. John R. Kenly is hereby assigned to the command of the District of Delaware, headquarters at Wilmington; he will enter upon his duties at once.

By command of Major-General Wallace:

SAMUEL B. LAWRENCE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

NICHOLASVILLE, KY., *April 2, 1864.*

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

Sixteen cars with 600 men, and three cars with horses and baggage left at 6 p. m., Colonel Howard in charge of train. This train takes all the men belonging to the corps.

ROBT. A. HUTCHINS,
*Captain.*

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CONFIDENTIAL.] FORT MONROE, VA., *April 2, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

In the spring campaign, which it is desirable shall commence at as early a day as practicable, it is proposed to have co-operative action of all the armies in the field, as far as the object can be accomplished. It will not be possible to unite our armies into two or three large ones, to act as so many units, owing to the absolute necessity of holding on to the territory already taken from the enemy; but, generally speaking, concentration can be practically effected by armies moving to the interior of the enemy's country from the territory

they have to guard. By such movement they interpose themselves between the enemy and the country to be guarded, thereby reducing the number necessary to guard important points, and at least occupy the attention of part of the enemy's force, if no greater object is gained. Lee's army and Richmond being the greater objects toward which our attention must be directed in the next campaign, it is desirable to unite all the force against them.

The necessity for covering Washington with the Army of the Potomac and of covering your department with your army makes it impossible to unite these forces at the beginning of any move. I propose, therefore, what comes nearest this of anything that seems practicable. The Army of the Potomac will act from its present base, Lee's army being the objective point.

You will collect all the forces from your command that can be spared from garrison duty—I should say not less than 20,000 effective men—to operate on the south side of the James River, Richmond being your objective point. To the force you already have will be added about 10,000 men from South Carolina, under Major-General Gillmore, who will command them in person. Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith is ordered to report to you to command the troops sent into the field from your own department.

General Gillmore will be ordered to report to you at Fort Monroe, with all his troops on transports, by the 18th instant, or as soon thereafter as practicable. Should you not receive notice by that time to move, you will make such disposition of them and your other forces as you may deem best calculated to deceive the enemy as to the real move to be made. When you are notified to move take City Point with as much force as possible. Fortify, or rather intrench, at once, and concentrate all your troops for the field there as rapidly as you can. From City Point directions cannot be given at this time for your further movements.

The fact that has already been stated, that is, that Richmond is to be your objective point, and that there is to be co-operation between your force and the Army of the Potomac, must be your guide. This indicates the necessity of your holding close to the south bank of the James River as you advance. Then, should the enemy be forced into his intrenchments in Richmond, the Army of the Potomac would follow, and by means of transports the two armies would become a unit.

All the minor details of your advance are left entirely to your direction. If, however, you think it practicable to use your cavalry south of you so as to cut the railroad about Hicksford about the time of the general advance it would be of immense advantage.

You will please forward for my information at the earliest practicable day all orders, details, and instructions you may give for the execution of this order.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 2, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Comdg. Sub-district of the Albemarle, Plymouth, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to request that you select from your command some efficient officer, a lieutenant,

whom you will direct to report to me by letter immediately. The duty to which this officer is to be assigned will be:

First. The distribution throughout your sub-district, and as much of the surrounding country as shall be practicable, of ten thousand copies of the President's amnesty proclamation. He will accompany all scouts and expeditions sent out by you into the enemy's lines, and will avail himself of every opportunity for giving this proclamation the greatest possible circulation among the citizens of North Carolina and the army of the Confederate States.

I shall take the first opportunity to forward to you copies of this proclamation, which you will deliver to the officer whom you shall select for this duty, and cause him to forward to me a receipt for the same when he shall report.

Second. This officer will also be charged with the duty in your sub-district enjoined upon company officers and officers commanding recruiting rendezvous or depots in General Orders, No. 91, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, promulgated in this district by General Orders, No. 46, headquarters Army and District of North Carolina, March 31, 1864.

He will enter upon this duty at once, visiting every company commander in your command, and ascertaining as nearly as possible the number of men from each that can be transferred under this law. He will report to me daily as to his progress in this matter and concerning anything of interest relative to the distribution of the copies of amnesty proclamation and of men that may be qualified for transfer to the Navy.

I shall do myself the honor to visit you in the course of a week or ten days, when I shall have the objects of these orders fully under way in this district.

In the mean time, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. HOLBROOK,
*Lieutenant and Acting Aide-de-Camp.*

---

ALEXANDRIA, *April* 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: The regular patrols are in and report all quiet. The firing upon the wood train yesterday I think was by 4 of Kincheloe's men. I have sent out to-night a large party in the hopes of capturing a part of Kincheloe's. He is said to be in the pines in the neck between the Occoquan and Bull Run.

Respectfully,

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal.*

---

ALEXANDRIA, *April* 3, 1864.

Colonel TAYLOR, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The patrols report all quiet. The party sent out last last night have returned. They captured 5 guerrillas of Kincheloe's band, and 1 horse and arms; two of the captured men are named Kincheloe, not the captain.

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 3, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 9.15 p. m.)

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I respectfully request that General Ord and General Averell return immediately to this department, to enter upon their duties according to the instructions of General Grant.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Please telegraph the time when your troops leave, so that I may give the necessary directions.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

The general commanding directs me to say that your dispatch in relation to your troops being on the way is received, and is all right.

C. A. FREEMAN,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 3, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cumberland:*

Scout from Strasburg just returned reports no enemy nearer than Lexington, except Imboden, who has 250 mounted men. Report says that Rosser is going to Culpeper from Lexington. Reliable information says that the left wing of Lee's army has been falling back since last Tuesday.

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE CROOK,
*Charleston, W. Va.:*

Letter of Brigadier-General Duffié regarding occupation of Summerville received. You are authorized to withdraw from Summerville if, in view of present position and probable movements hereafter, you deem it best to do so. Please report action under this.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 3, 1864.
(Received 9.10 p. m.)

Maj. J. D. KURTZ,
*In Charge of Engineer Bureau, Washington, D. C.:*

In view of contemplated movements of the army in this region, it is absolutely necessary that I should have a train of twenty-five canvas boats and appendages. I would respectfully request that orders be sent to Mr. Trowbridge, in New York, to furnish me with it as soon as possible unless there is already one available in some other quarter. Please answer.

F. U. FARQUHAR,
*Captain U. S. Engineers.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 144. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, April* 4, 1864.

I. By direction of the President of the United States, the following changes and assignments are made in army corps commands:

Maj. Gen. P. H. Sheridan is assigned to command the Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac.

* * * * * * *

II. Capt. Horace Porter, U. S. Ordnance Department, is announced as an aide-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Grant, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*April* 4, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

A small party of the enemy is employed this morning on the works under construction near Somerville Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*April* 4, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Can see no change. No movement.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

---

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. FRANZ SIGEL,
*Comdg. Dept. of West Virginia, Cumberland, Md.:*

In my letter of instructions for organizing an expedition from your department for the purpose of cutting the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, I fixed the route by Covington and the number of troops of each arm to be sent, on limited information of the country

to be traversed and on examination of your last returns. I understood the best and most accessible route was from Covington. If this is not the case I do not insist upon the route, but only upon the work to be done.

If you can increase the cavalry force to go with the expedition, do so. As the first part of the route to be traveled by this expedition is through a country that will furnish but little subsistence or forage a larger train will have to accompany it than I designed. This will be pretty well exhausted of supplies before reaching Lewisburg, where the country becomes rich, and the most of it can be returned to Beverly under an escort of, say, 800 to 1,000 men, which will have to be detached from the expedition for that purpose.

This expedition, being co-operative with movements made by other armies, cannot leave Beverly until the other armies are ready to leave also. I am now satisfied preparations cannot be made elsewhere before the 20th instant. You may understand, then, you have until the 20th instant to concentrate your forces.

It is possible the expedition with Generals Ord and Averell may have to return to you by way of the Shenandoah Valley. To provide against this contingency you should collect any available force you may have at a convenient point from which to march on Staunton to meet them. Should you find it necessary to go to Staunton, you will want to take as large a supply train as you can, to not only provide for the troops you take with you, but to feed those you go to meet. Please consult General Averell as to the most practicable routes for accomplishing the object to be attained, and advise with me by telegraph and letter of your conclusions.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 4, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

Your letter of the 2d received. It will be early enough for troops to reach Beverly by the 15th instant. This will enable many of your absentees to return in time for the proposed move. All communications addressed to the Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington, are immediately forwarded to me, when important, for my information or action. While I am in immediate telegraphic communication there is no objection, however, to communicating with me direct in such matters as you deem necessary.

U. S. GRANT.
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 4, 1864—5.30 p. m.
(Received 7.05 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*War Department, Washington, D. C.:*

Your dispatch of to-day in regard to the movement of troops is received. I will act according to your instructions given in the telegram.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 4, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:*

COLONEL: I take leave to direct the attention of the Secretary of War to the letter inclosed,* and respectfully request that twelve 30-pounder Parrotts with the necessary ammunition and other material may be sent to this department immediately, eight of them to remain at Cumberland to arm the intrenchments under construction and nearly finished, and four to be sent to New Creek for the same purpose. Cumberland and New Creek are at present almost open and unprotected places. If the forts are armed and receive a small garrison, these cities will not be exposed to raids and surprises and will be able even to resist a formal attack made by largely superior numbers. I therefore hope that my request be approved, and the Ordnance Department instructed to send the guns.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 4, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 1.40 p. m.)

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

The following is reported:

Reliable information says that the left wing of Lee's army has been falling back since last Tuesday.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 4, 1864—6 p. m. (Rec'd 7 p. m.)

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

Information is received that the enemy is fortifying Jennings' Gap, northwest of Staunton.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 4, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:*

The Maryland troops furloughed by orders from Washington can be allowed to go if they will return to Harper's Ferry by the 10th instant. Inform General Sigel of this dispatch.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

* Not found.

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 4, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER AT WEBSTER:

The troops at Webster must be prepared to march to-morrow morning in the direction of Beverly. They will take two days' cooked rations in their haversacks and three in their knapsacks. Transportation in accordance with instructions given to Colonel Thoburn.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 4, 1864.

Colonel THOBURN:

Send only one good regiment to Beverly to-morrow with as little baggage as possible. The other troops now at Webster may remain there until further orders, as the weather is too unfavorable for moving them just now. The following regiments will form your brigade: The First Virginia, the Second Virginia, the Fourth Virginia, and the Fifteenth Virginia, and Carlin's battery. Your brigade will be named the Second.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 4, 1864.

Colonel THOBURN, *Webster:*

Have any of General Sullivan's troops arrived at Webster? Please tell me. The cavalry company was sent from here to assist you at Webster as orderlies, &c. They will not leave Webster for Beverly, but stay there subject to General Stahel's orders. Let the regiment ordered in advance repair the road, and especially bridges.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 4, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN, *Commanding Division, New Creek:*

To-morrow I will send you instructions in regard to the organization of the Army of West Virginia. Meanwhile I have ordered Colonel Thoburn to take charge of the troops at Webster, to provide for them, and to start them from that point. I will communicate directly with him and send you copies of telegrams. He is, however, regarded as under your orders until further arrangements.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. CHIEF OF CAVALRY, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, April* 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL, *Comdg. Division, Martinsburg:*

The order given in my letter to send 1,500 men to Webster is by order of General Sigel, so modified that you will send 500 men to Webster and 1,000 men to Clarksburg. Notify the railroad agent. Please acknowledge receipt.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

CHARLESTON, W. VA., *April* 4, 1864.
(Received April 6.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

I visited Marietta, Ohio. The Thirty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on veteran furlough at that place, agree to the conditions we were speaking of. Their furlough is up on the 19th instant. I need at least one more infantry regiment. Will you please order it at once? I have just learned that the Eighth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry and the Twentieth Pennsylvania Volunteers are not mounted nor fully equipped yet.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, *April* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

I will order the troops from Summerville to their old posts. There is a company of State troops stationed there that will serve for a corps of observation. When I advance all avenues leading here will be protected by my advancing columns. I will leave a sufficient force behind to protect my rear. I will want a depot of supplies here either to draw on or to fall back on, in case of necessity. During the summer the water becomes so low that it is difficult to get supplies here. Will you please order the remainder of the Third Virginia Cavalry here at once so I can get in shape? Will the Seventh Virginia Cavalry be ordered here? I would like another mounted regiment here in addition to those already ordered, to carry out my part of the programme.

Please hurry forward ordnance and ordnance stores for me.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. DISTRICT OF DELAWARE, *Wilmington, April 4*, 1864.

1. In obedience to General Orders, No. 21, headquarters Middle Department, Eighth Army Corps, I assume command of the District of Delaware.

2. All reports and returns required by existing orders and the general regulations of the Army of the United States will be made by the troops at and in the vicinity of Wilmington to Maj. Henry B. Judd, U. S. Army, commanding the post; by all other troops in the district, direct to the adjutant-general at these headquarters.

3. Lieut. John Huidekoper, One hundred and fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, is announced as aide-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant-general.

JOHN R. KENLY,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

NEW YORK, *April* 4, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*General-in-Chief, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I beg to inclose to you a copy of letter sent in January last * to the Secretary of War. Not knowing if you had seen the letter, and in view of the fact that the Ninth Army Corps, including the old Third Division, will probably be in a few days concentrated at Annapolis and below, with a strength of 40,000 or more men, I deem it not improper to send it for your consideration.

Some of the regiments of the old Third Division are now in the Department of the South, and I would respectfully suggest that some of the old regiments that were with me in North Carolina, and now on furlough from the Department of the South, should be ordered to take their place in the Third Division.

The Twenty-fourth Massachusetts and the Eleventh Connecticut are the two regiments which I would like to have report, instead of the One hundred and seventeenth and One hundred and third and Third New York, now on Folly Island.

The Third Division can be concentrated at Norfolk, or such other point as you may think desirable, and would by this arrangement be composed of the following regiments: The Eighth, Eleventh, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Twenty-first Connecticut, the Tenth and Thirteenth New Hampshire, the Fourth Rhode Island, now in General Butler's command, and the Eighty-ninth New York, now on furlough.

If orders could be issued for concentrating this division it would to some extent increase enlistments in the different regiments. I am interesting myself in the recruiting, as if the order had already been issued. I made the application for the increased artillery to General Halleck, and suppose it has been laid before you.

It would seem advisable that the batteries should be ordered to report to the headquarters of the Ninth Corps at Annapolis. It might be advisable to concentrate the Third Division in North Carolina, if it is decided that the future operations of the corps are to be in that section.

I send this by Lieutenant Van Vliet, of my staff.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 4, 1864.

Commodore JOHN W. LIVINGSTON,
*Commanding Naval Station, Norfolk:*

COMMODORE: Lieutenant-General Grant shared with me the regret we both felt at not being able to land at the navy-yard and meet you, as we had proposed, owing to the threatening inclemency of the weather, which rendered it necessary for us to return at once. I trust in a few days we shall see General Grant here again, when we will endeavor to do that which we failed to do on Friday.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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*See of January 26, and Stanton's reply, January 29, pp. 427, 443.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
*Department of the South:*

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Grant directs that you move with all possible dispatch so much of your forces as in your judgment can be safely spared from the Department of the South to Fort Monroe, Va., and report to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler, who will have orders in regard to your future operations. You will turn over the Department of the South and the troops which you may deem necessary to leave there to Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch. You will be joined at Fort Monroe by the regiments and fractions of regiments belonging to the Department of the South which have been on furlough at the North, and are now rendezvousing here preparatory to their return to your command. The troops which you bring with you and those which join you at Fort Monroe will constitute the Tenth Army Corps. You will bring with you their arms, baggage, and transportation. Fractional portions now North of such regiments as you may leave in the Department of the South will be sent by you from Fort Monroe to their proper commands in the South. Of course the arms, baggage, &c., of such parts of organizations will not be brought north. The selection of the troops to be brought north for active operations in the field is left entirely to your own judgment. The lieutenant-general, however, expects from your own reports that your effective command on its arrival at Fort Monroe will be from 7,000 to 11,000 men. This corps, increased by such forces as we may be able to give it, will be commanded by you in the field. General Grant hopes that your command will reach Fort Monroe by the 18th instant; if not by that time, as soon thereafter as possible. The troops should arrive ready in every respect for the field. Apply to Major-General Butler for such supplies as you may require. Should he not be able to meet your requisitions, telegraph immediately on ascertaining that fact to the proper department in Washington.

The Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored and the Twenty-ninth Connecticut Colored Regiments will be immediately sent to the Department of the South. They number about 900 each. Possibly another colored regiment will be sent to that department, but do not rely on it. General Meigs is collecting vessels to assist in bringing up your forces and their transportation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 15. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April* 5, 1864.

I. The organization of the provost-marshal's department of this army will be as follows:

First. At army headquarters the officers and guards at present authorized.

At army corps headquarters a provost-marshal having the rank of field officer, assisted by a captain or lieutenant, and such guards as in the judgment of the corps commander may be necessary for the efficient working of the department.

At division headquarters a provost-marshal having the rank of

captain, with one full company of infantry subject to his orders, to serve as guards and perform such other duties as may be required of the department.

Second. The corps and division provost-marshals may be changed by corps commanders, for cause, but all such changes, together with the reasons therefor, will be promptly reported to the provost-marshal-general.

Third. The official correspondence between the officers of the provost-marshal's department will be regulated by the provisions of paragraph 1 of General Orders, No. 81, of August 20, 1863, from these headquarters.

II. The following is established as the organization and equipment of the pioneer parties of this army:

First. The unit of organization will be by brigade. In each brigade 1 man shall be selected for every 50 men equipped for duty in it; for every 10 men thus selected a corporal shall be detailed, and for every 20 a sergeant, and for each brigade 1 lieutenant.

For each division a first lieutenant of old date or a captain shall be detailed to command the pioneers of the division, who will be a member of the division staff, and be furnished with a horse and equipments by the quartermaster's department.

The pioneers will be armed as they were in their regiments, and men and officers will be especially selected for fitness for the duty. They will be excused from all guard and picket duty and from ordinary fatigue details. The tools will be furnished in the following proportions, viz, five-tenths axes, three-tenths shovels, two-tenths picks, and be carried on pack-mules during the march, each mule carrying the tools for 40 pioneers. The quartermaster's department will provide the necessary mules and appropriate panniers for this service.

Brigade and division commanders are directed to give special attention to the prompt formation and equipment of their pioneer parties.

In camp, the pioneer parties will make the ordinary repairs to roads, build bridges, &c. On the march, they will move at the head of the infantry column and promptly put in order all parts of the route where artillery and wagons have to pass, whether for their own command or for troops to follow.

Second. Corps commanders will cause 1 non-commissioned officer and 25 efficient men to be selected and placed under the orders of the chief quartermaster of the corps to serve as a mounted pioneer party to accompany the trains, and to be provided with 10 axes, 10 spades, and 5 picks. The horses and equipments for the pioneers for the trains will be furnished by the quartermaster's department.

III. General Orders, No. 100, of November 5, 1863, from these headquarters, is so far modified as to authorize, in addition to present allowances, the following, viz:

At each army corps headquarters one two-horse wagon, without springs; three saddle-horses for contingent wants.

At each division headquarters one two-horse wagon, without springs; two saddle-horses for contingent wants.

At each brigade headquarters one common two-horse spring wagon; one saddle-horse for contingent wants.

The additional wagons thus authorized are for the transportation of paymasters, sick officers, and the public mails, and will not be used for private purposes.

IV. When regiments of cavalry, artillery, or infantry exceed 1,000 men the allowances of transportation will be regulated according to the proportion established in General Orders, No. 100, of November 5, 1863,* from these headquarters for regiments having less than 1,000 men.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 86. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April* 5, 1864.

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13. Maj. Gen. P. H. Sheridan, U. S. Volunteers, having reported to the major-general commanding, is, in compliance with General Orders, No. 144, of the 4th instant, from the War Department, assigned to the command of the Cavalry Corps, and will enter upon duty accordingly.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 15. HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF POTOMAC, *April* 5, 1864.

Paragraph 2 of General Orders, No. 6, of January 15, 1864, from these headquarters, in the following words, is hereby revoked:

Every guerrilla or other rebel wearing the uniform of a U. S. soldier caught in the act of making war against any of the forces of this command will be hung upon the spot.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

E. B. PARSONS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF POTOMAC, *April* 5, 1864.

In accordance with paragraph 13 of Special Orders, No. 86, of April 5, 1864, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the undersigned assumes command of the Cavalry Corps.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General of Volunteers.*

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MERRITT'S HEADQUARTERS, *April* 5, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS:

All quiet along the picket-lines. Commanding officer of the Reserve Brigade reports heavy details of the enemy throwing up works on the banks of the Rapidan opposite his line.

W. MERRITT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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*See Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 420.

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to report all quiet. Some guerrillas were seen this morning in the vicinity of our lines. A detachment of cavalry was sent in search of them, but have not yet returned.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER,
*Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: By orders of the War Department, of which I send a copy, you have been assigned to this department. You will therefore please report in person at these headquarters as soon as possible, to be assigned to the command at Harper's Ferry. You may therefore leave your horses and baggage in Washington until you return to Harper's Ferry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 5, 1864.

Colonel THOBURN,
*Webster or Grafton:*

COLONEL: The weather being too unfavorable for movement of troops and trains, you will please stay with the troops at Grafton or Webster, or at both places, until further orders. You will have to stay probably three or four days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL.

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IN THE FIELD, CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*April* 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Commanding Ninth Army Corps:*

Your letter of yesterday, inclosing copy of your letter of the 26th of January to the Secretary of War, was received this morning just as I was leaving Washington, and so short a time before leaving that I did not get to read it until my arrival here.

The plan of operations for this spring's campaign I fixed upon almost immediately on assuming command of the army, and I yet see no reason to change. It does not embrace the movements proposed in your letter to the Secretary of War. If it did, your request for the return of troops formerly belonging to the Ninth Army Corps would be immediately complied with. I may yet be able to return them to the Ninth Corps, but it can only be after they meet in the field.

The artillery for your command will be taken from the defenses of Washington, where they are now well quartered and provided for. To move them to Annapolis, from which place they would have

again to be moved so soon, could not compensate by any benefits to arise from it for the inconvenience of such a transfer, to say nothing of the expense it would put the Government to.

I cannot make clear to you the reasons why your requests for transfer of troops cannot be immediately granted without giving you the plan of operations which I propose, and for which most of the preparatory instructions have already gone out. When we meet I will take great pleasure in communicating to you fully (as it will be my duty to do in view of the part you are expected to take) what is to be done. I wish you to get forward to Annapolis by the 20th instant all the force you can, and be in readiness to move at a day's notice with whatever force you may have at any time after that.

I have appointed Colonel Babcock an aide on my staff, but have not been able to communicate the fact to him. If you know where he is please order him to report to me.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
[*April* 5, 1864.]

Confidential memoranda for General Meigs: General Grant has directed General Gillmore, with about 10,000 men, to report at Fort Monroe. I understand that General Gillmore has water transportation for about 5,000, consequently he must make two trips unless vessels can be sent to him from the North. There are two colored regiments (1,800 men) at Annapolis to be sent to South Carolina, and a third will probably be ready in about a week. Can vessels be sent with these and bring back Gillmore's command? Can any vessels be sent for troops to Department of the South? Please give memoranda to Captain Scott or see me before 2 o'clock.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 5, 1864.
(Received 1 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

The Twenty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, who are now returned from the Department of the Gulf on furlough, was the regiment which I enlisted from my neighborhood, in my own town of Lowell, to go to the Gulf. Out of 600 they have re-enlisted 541 men, leaving only about 200 recruits in New Orleans who could not re-enlist. It would be very pleasant for me to have that regiment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, April* 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

SIR: The Secretary of War directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th ultimo, requesting that Colonel

Streight and his regiment might be transferred to your department, and to inform you in reply that he cannot consistently grant your request at present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. R. S. CANBY,
*Brigadier-General and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, *April* 6, 1864.
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

If General Burnside is in Washington please send him here. If he is not in Washington, do you know whether he will be there within a day or two?

U. S. GRANT.

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, *April* 6, 1864.
(Received 10.10 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Is General Wilson to come here? If he can be spared from the Cavalry Bureau he is much wanted to command a cavalry division. I would like to know the decision of the Secretary of War in this matter as soon as possible, so that the cavalry command can be arranged.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 16. } *April* 6, 1864.

The following assignments to duty of officers of the Subsistence Department are announced. No changes will be made in these assignments except upon orders issued or approved at these headquarters:

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

*Second Corps.*

Lieut. Col. Joseph S. Smith, chief commissary of subsistence.

First Division, Capt. A. C. Voris, commissary of subsistence.

First Brigade, Capt. R. W. Thompson, jr., commissary of subsistence.

Second Brigade, Capt. C. S. Langdon, commissary of subsistence.

Third Brigade, Capt. L. L. Rose, commissary of subsistence.

Fourth Brigade, Capt. G. P. Burnham, commissary of subsistence.

Second Division, Capt. Thomas S. Crombarger, commissary of subsistence.

First Brigade, Capt. Frederick W. Owen, commissary of subsistence.

Second Brigade, Capt. George B. Corkhill, commissary of subsistence.

Third Brigade, Capt. W. A. Nichols, commissary of subsistence.
Third Division, Capt. C. M. Robins, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. G. W. Cooney, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. D. C. Tomlinson, commissary of subsistence.
Fourth Division, Capt. J. D. Earle, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. C. J. Queen, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. G. W. Beach, commissary of subsistence.
Artillery Brigade, Capt. J. T. Elliott, commissary of subsistence.

*Fifth Corps.*

Capt. D. L. Smith, acting chief commissary of subsistence.
First Division, Capt. M. R. Came, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. E. W. Warren, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. W. T. W. Ball, commissary of subsistence.
Third Brigade, Capt. G. H. Weir, commissary of subsistence.
Second Division, Capt. F. Gerker, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. N. Mayhew, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. B. F. Bucklin, commissary of subsistence.
Third Brigade, Capt. W. L. Kenly, commissary of subsistence.
Third Division, Capt. P. B. Spear, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. J. D. Adair, commissary of subsistence.
Third Brigade, Capt. J. S. Burdette, commissary of subsistence.
Fourth Division, Capt. C. McClure, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. H. C. Holloway, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. A. Walker, commissary of subsistence.
Third Brigade, Capt. W. R. Rathbone, commissary of subsistence.
Artillery Brigade, Capt. S. R. Steel, commissary of subsistence.

*Sixth Corps.*

Capt. James K. Scofield, acting chief commissary of subsistence.
First Division, Capt. J. G. Fitts, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. E. S. Converse, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. H. M. Swift, commissary of subsistence.
Third Brigade, Capt. W. D. Wesson, commissary of subsistence.
Fourth Brigade, Capt. N. Ellmaker, commissary of subsistence.
Second Division, Capt. C. F. Morse, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. H. B. Masters, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. A. B. Valentine, commissary of subsistence.
Third Brigade, Capt. G. T. Burroughs, commissary of subsistence.
Fourth Brigade, Capt. W. I. Ellis, commissary of subsistence.
Third Division, Capt. E. M. Buchanan, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Capt. D. H. Veech, commissary of subsistence.
Second Brigade, Capt. H. L. McKee, commissary of subsistence.
Artillery Brigade, Capt. D. Tarbell, commissary of subsistence.

*Cavalry Corps.*

Lieut. Col. G. H. Woods, acting chief commissary of subsistence.
First Division, Capt. M. F. Hale, commissary of subsistence.
First Brigade, Lieut. A. L. Shannon, acting commissary of subsistence.

Second Brigade, Capt. William Thompson, commissary of subsistence.

Reserve Brigade, Lieut. P. Dwyer, acting commissary of subsistence.

Second Division, Capt. P. Pollard, commissary of subsistence.

First Brigade, Capt. J. N. Potter, commissary of subsistence.

Second Brigade, Lieut. H. S. King, acting commissary of subsistence.

Third Division, Capt. G. I. Taggart, commissary of subsistence.

First Brigade, Lieut. James Moffitt, acting commissary of subsistence.

Second Brigade, Lieut. M. H. Wooster, acting commissary of subsistence.

*Reserve Artillery.*

Capt. B. F. Talbot, chief commissary of subsistence.

First Brigade, Capt. M. Bayles, commissary of subsistence.

Second Brigade, Capt. L. W. Muzzey, commissary of subsistence.

First Brigade, Horse Artillery, Capt. H. L. Cranford, commissary of subsistence.

Second Brigade, Horse Artillery, First Lieut. W. M. Maynadier, acting commissary of subsistence.

Officers whose positions are changed by the foregoing arrangement will at once report for duty with the commands to which they have been assigned.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

No change in enemy's camps. No rise in river. Railroad bridge not repaired.

FULLER,
*Signal Officer.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

From 50 to 100 of the enemy are at work this a. m. upon the works near Somerville Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR.

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
*Cole's Hill, Culpeper County, Va., April* 6, 1864.

Extract from report of Col. Elijah Walker, corps officer of the day, for April 4 to 5, 1864:

I visited the lines of Third, Second, and First Divisions. The officer in command of the Third Division picket informed me that there was an interval along the river between his left and the Fifth Corps which was not picketed; that he had

been informed by a colored man that some of Mosby's men had crossed and recrossed the river at that place during the winter. I requested the division officer of the day to make a personal examination, and make such disposition as would prevent any passing.

ELIJAH WALKER,
*Colonel and Corps Officer of the Day.*

Extract from report of Lieut. Col. R. E. Winslow, Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, division officer of the day, Third Division, Second Corps, for April 4 to 5, 1864:

The left of the picket-line, in my opinion, requires strengthening or a more complete connection made with the corps on that part of our line. The gap is considerable between the two corps, being at least 1 mile.

R. E. WINSLOW,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Division Officer of the Day.*

The picket-line along the Rappahannock from Kelly's Ford up to Wheatley's Dam and Ford, directed to be established by the commander of the Second Corps, from orders and through Major-General Humphreys, chief of staff, Army of the Potomac, was perfected and two picket-posts in addition established about the dam. These extracts refer to the space yet existing higher up the river.

Respectfully forwarded.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April* 6, 1864.
(Received 11 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. FRANZ SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

If the enemy move against any part of your line, as your information would indicate they intended, the concentration you are making would enable you to meet them successfully. Of course you would in such a case take such a force as you deemed necessary, regardless of any expedition ordered from here when no advance of the enemy was contemplated. Your forces would be accomplishing at home the greatest advantage expected of them by moving south, if the enemy do attack you in force—that is, they would divide him.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 6, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your letter of 4th April is received, through Major-General Ord; also your telegram of to-day. I have no information of important movements of the enemy, and everything is going on well. With regard to movement of our troops I will send report in writing, with some suggestions I think necessary. I made application to the Adjutant-General to have the regiment of heavy artillery now at Baltimore transferred to this department to occupy Harper's Ferry, at least temporarily, so that more infantry from there can be made available for the field. I also requested the Governor of [West] Virginia to call out part of the State militia to take care of the railroad, and will report the result.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 6, 1864.
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

Having received instructions from Army Headquarters which make the withdrawal of infantry from Harper's Ferry a necessity, I respectfully request that the regiment of heavy artillery now at Baltimore shall be sent to Harper's Ferry to garrison the forts and place.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
No. 68. } *Cumberland, Md., April* 6, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VII. Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord, having been assigned to this department for duty by orders of the lieutenant-general commanding Armies of the United States, will proceed to Grafton, Webster, and Beverly, W. Va., as soon as practicable and assume command of the troops assembled at those points, and make such arrangements as are in accordance with instructions and orders from these headquarters. Commanders of regiments and battalions now at the points herein indicated, and of such other troops as may hereafter be assigned to him, will obey and respect his orders and instructions.

* * * * * * *

IX. Brig. Gen. J. C. Sullivan, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the division of infantry now being assembled at Webster, Grafton, and Clarksburg, W. Va., including the regiments stationed at Beverly, W. Va., commanded by Col. A. Moor, Twenty-eighth Ohio.

* * * * * * *

XI. The organization of the Second Division of this department having been dissolved by large transfers to another command, the infantry and artillery remaining will be organized forthwith into a separate brigade, to be known as the Second Separate Brigade of this department.

The Second Regiment, Potomac Home Brigade, will be comprised, until further orders, in this brigade, and will remain at its present station. Col. J. A. Mulligan, Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, is assigned to the command.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 6, 1864.

Colonel THOBURN,
*Grafton or Webster:*

Let me know immediately by telegraph how things are getting along. The troops must be quartered and sheltered as good as possible. They will stay where they are now for some time, to be well prepared for the field. Please report to General Sullivan, who will take command of the division to which your brigade belongs. He

has left to-day for Grafton and Webster. Inform me immediately where the troops all are, and whether you have sent a regiment in advance.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 152. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, April 6*, 1864.

The Department of the Monongahela will be annexed to the Department of the Susquehanna, and discontinued as a separate department.

Brig. Gen. W. T. H. Brooks will repair to Fort Monroe, and report to the commanding general for duty in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

By order of the Secretary of War :

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April 6*, 1864.
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
*Quartermaster-General :*

Can spare a thousand tons coal, and have ordered it sail as soon as weather will possibly admit. Can spare more which is afloat. Have given Perit eleven days' supply of coal and thirteen of water. Will give Salvor eight days' coal and twelve of water. Propeller Montauk has broken valve-crank. Hope she will be ready to-morrow evening. Spaulding not yet arrived. Will give her orders as soon as she comes in.

HERMAN BIGGS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.*

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NAVY DEPARTMENT, *Washington, April 7*, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War :*

SIR : Lieutenant-General Grant has asked for two more iron-clads to be sent to Hampton Roads within ten days. The iron-clad batteries Onondaga and Tecumseh have been directed to leave New York on Monday or Tuesday next.

The Tecumseh has no crew, but by taking out from all other vessels the few hands on board of each I believe she will not be detained beyond the time indicated by the lieutenant-general.

This department has not been informed of the duty expected of these iron-clads, or whether additional naval force is required, which would be the case in the event of an army being sent as far as City Point. Public rumor points to a movement of this kind, which cannot be successful unless a co-operating naval force is kept in James River. Twice the number of steamers required have been ready for two months, excepting the crews. I bring this subject again to your notice because the legislation of Congress has placed in your hands

the providing of seamen for the Navy, and this Department must await your action, whatever may be the exigency which coming events impose upon the Navy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy.*

[Indorsement.]

APRIL 7, 1864.

I am not advised that any army is to be sent as far as City Point, nor that any co-operating naval force, additional to the three iron-clads asked for, is desired by Lieutenant-General Grant. A copy of this letter will be sent to General Grant for his information.

H. W. HALLECK.

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IN THE FIELD, CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*April 7*, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

If General Burnside has not started here, he need not come, but in that case notify him to be in readiness to leave Annapolis with whatever command he may have at the shortest notice, after the 20th instant. I have written to the general in answer to his communication sent by Lieutenant Van Vliet. Enjoin secrecy about divulging the time of expected movement from Annapolis, or even that troops are to move from there at all.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April 7*, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

General Burnside left unexpectedly last night. Your message will be sent to him in cipher as soon as he can be found. General Wilson has been relieved, and troops ordered as directed. General Sigel asks that a regiment of heavy artillery be sent from Baltimore to garrison Harper's Ferry. Shall it be done?

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, *April 7*, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
*New York:*

Lieutenant-General Grant wishes you to be in readiness to move your troops from Annapolis at shortest notice after the 20th, and keep it secret that you are to move from there at all.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 7*, 1864—9.05 p. m.

Lieut. Col. C. B. COMSTOCK:

At last accounts there was no force of the enemy at Fredericksburg nearer than Hamilton's Crossing, where there was said to be a brigade of Hampton's cavalry division. This command patrolled the lower fords of the Rappahannock and Rapidan. I have scouts out expected in to-night or to-morrow from that direction, who will bring in later intelligence.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April 7*, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 9.20 a. m., 8th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Washington, D. C.:*

Please order a regiment of heavy artillery from Baltimore, Md., to Harper's Ferry, Va., to garrison the latter place.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 154. WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, April 7*, 1864.

Brig. Gen. James H. Wilson, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved as chief of the Cavalry Bureau of the War Department, and will report to Lieutenant-General Grant for assignment to duty.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 17. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April 7*, 1864.

I. In view of the near approach of the time when this army may be expected to resume active operations, corps and other independent commanders will cause the public and private property for which transportation is not authorized by existing orders to be sent to the rear with as little delay as practicable.

Store-houses are provided in Alexandria, under the charge of Capt. J. G. C. Lee, assistant quartermaster, for the storage of all legitimate surplus or extra private and public property, such as officers' trunks and boxes and regimental property that will not be transported in wagons on a march. Officers will be restricted to a moderate allowance of bedding and mess articles, and to a valise or carpet-bag for extra clothing. All property sent to the rear must be plainly marked, stating whether private or public, name of owner, corps, division, brigade, regiment, company, and contents. It will be turned over to the nearest depot quartermaster, who will give transportation receipts for the same to Alexandria; when it reaches the latter place, a store-house receipt will be forwarded to the owner or responsible officer, who will thus be enabled to withdraw it at the proper time without the necessity of visiting the depots in person. Office wagons

having been furnished to the headquarters of each corps, most, if not all, of the desks and tables heretofore used in offices will be sent to the rear.

II. All sutlers and their employés will leave the army by the 16th instant, and should sutlers be found with the army after that date, their goods will be confiscated for the benefit of the hospitals, and their employés will be placed, by the provost-marshal-general, at hard labor.

III. After the 16th instant, the provost-marshal-general will recall the permits heretofore given to citizens to remain with the army, Government employés, members of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, and the registered newspaper correspondents excepted.

IV. Paragraph 2 of General Orders, No. 62, of June 12, 1863, from these headquarters, is republished for general information, it being as follows:

> Every commanding officer is required by paragraph 5, General Orders, No. 56, to send to the provost-marshal-general every citizen found within his lines without a proper permit, and the provost-marshal-general is hereby instructed to put every person so delivered, and every unauthorized person hereafter found within the limits of this army to hard labor on the Government works or in the quartermaster's department.

V. The authority heretofore delegated to corps commanders to grant leaves of absence and furloughs is revoked, except as to furloughs to re-enlisted veterans, and, with this exception, until further orders, no leaves of absence or furloughs will be granted save in extreme cases. In such cases corps commanders may grant leaves and furloughs, subject to the limitations as to time established by General Orders, No. 3, of January 30, 1863, from these headquarters.*

VI. Corps and other independent commanders will send to these headquarters, with as little delay as practicable, lists showing the names and regiments of officers and enlisted men doing duty in their respective commands who belong to regiments serving in other armies or departments. Such lists will also show the circumstances under which such officers and men have been detained with this army.

VII. So far as practicable, each command will furnish its own details for every kind of extra or special service. Officers and men now doing duty in one corps, belonging to regiments serving in another, will, unless specially assigned from these headquarters, be returned to their regiments, aides-de-camp of general officers and men on duty with the batteries excepted.

VIII. Paragraph 4 of General Orders, No. 11, of February 11, 1863, from these headquarters,† respecting the sale and issue of subsistence stores to citizens, will not be so construed as to authorize such sales and issues to be made to persons residing without the line of cavalry pickets.

IX. Paragragh 2 of General Orders, No. 12, of March 29, 1864, from these headquarters, is so far amended as to direct that in the cavalry and infantry corps a board be appointed in each division, by the division commander, for the examination of applications for transfer to the Navy. The reports of such boards to be forwarded as directed in the above-mentioned paragraph.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*See Vol. XXV, Part II, p. 11.

†See Vol. XXV, Part II, p. 67.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 7*, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that Lieut. Col. E. R. Warner, First New York Artillery, inspector of artillery of this army, detailed on recruiting service by paragraph 25, Special Orders, No. 532, War Department, 1863, may be ordered to report to me to resume his duties with this army, which, under the existing organization, requires the immediate attention of an experienced officer.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 7*, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I respectfully recommend that Battery K, First New York Artillery (without guns and equipments, 91 strong), now serving with Battery M, First Connecticut Siege Artillery, be relieved from that duty and ordered to report to Brigadier-General Howe, inspector-general of artillery, to be refitted and mounted. The absent men of the Connecticut battery, whose places they have taken, are due to-day, and it is important that the battery should start as soon as relieved, as they have no camp of their own.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April 7*, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain NORTON and
General HANCOCK:

The enemy is at work this a. m. as usual upon the heights behind Somerville Ford. All quiet.

TAYLOR.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 7*, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
*Commanding Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding deems it best that your pickets should be extended so as to close the gap between your pickets and those of the Fifth Corps. The great depth of water between Wheatley's Dam and Norman's Ford it was thought would prevent any passage in that interval, but the statement of Colonel Walker renders it desirable to take this precaution.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

APRIL 7, 1864.

Colonel WAINWRIGHT,
*Chief of Artillery, Fifth Corps, Culpeper:*

You can get a section of light 12-pounders from Eakin's or Fitzhugh's batteries. Please complete your batteries as soon as possible, also your trains, and send the remainder to the Artillery Reserve, which cannot be organized until the corps brigades are completed.

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April 7*, 1864.

Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER,
415 *H Street, Washington:*

Report here immediately without horses and baggage.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D A. C.,
No. 23. } *April 7*, 1864.

I. The general commanding has learned, with surprise and regret, that there is a disinclination on the part of farmers in the vicinity of the city to cultivate their gardens and farms, based on an apprehension that their fences will be torn down and their crops destroyed by soldiers near them.

It is hoped and believed that no good reason exists for a suspicion so injurious to the reputation of the troops of this department, and the general commanding desires it to be understood by all that his best efforts, and he believes those of his entire command, will be exerted to the utmost to remove so unworthy an imputation upon their good names.

All officers are required to give immediate attention to this matter, and see that their men understand that it is their duty rather to protect citizens and their property than to injure them, and that they should aim to make themselves and their profession objects of pride and reliance to their fellow-citizens.

Commanding officers of forts and camps will be held responsible for all damage done to private property by their commands.

II. Any person who may suffer any injury to himself and property is desired to make his complaint to the commanding officer of the nearest post or camp, who is hereby required to make a full investigation and report upon the matter, and forward it to these headquarters, and any neglect or refusal or unnecessary delaying to do this will be treated as disobedience of orders.

All provost-marshals are required to report all cases of depredations coming to their knowledge, with the attending circumstances.

III. No order will be given by any officer commanding a fort or camp north of the Potomac to close any resident's house or place of business, or to remove or destroy any of his property, without first reporting the case to these headquarters for action. This does not apply to non-resident persons doing business by special permission.

IV. This order will be read to every company in the department.

By command of Maj. Gen. C. C. Augur:

C. H. RAYMOND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, *April* 7, 1864.
(Received 11.55 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. JULIUS STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

I will want 800 horses to mount my cavalry.

Respectfully,

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 155. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, April* 8, 1864.

The General-in-Chief announces the following-named officers as composing his staff in the field:

Brig. Gen. John A. Rawlins, chief of staff.
Lieut. Col. T. S. Bowers, assistant adjutant-general.
Lieut. Col. C. B. Comstock, senior aide-de-camp.
Lieut. Col. O. E. Babcock, aide-de-camp.
Lieut. Col. F. T. Dent, aide-de-camp.
Lieut. Col. Horace Porter, aide-de-camp.
Lieut. Col. W. L. Duff, assistant inspector-general.
Lieut. Col. W. R. Rowley, secretary.
Lieut. Col. Adam Badeau, secretary.
Capt. E. S. Parker, assistant adjutant-general.
Capt. George K. Leet, assistant adjutant-general, in charge of office at Washington.
Capt. P. T. Hudson, aide-de-camp.
Capt. H. W. Janes, assistant quartermaster, on special duty at headquarters.
First Lieut. W. M. Dunn, jr., Eighty-third Indiana Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE,
*April* 8, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Washington, D. C.:*

Artillery and transportation will be furnished you from Washington, and will be sent from there to your corps in the field. You need not look after Third Division for the present. I have written to you, directing my letter to Annapolis. I will be in Annapolis about the middle of next week.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 8, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

General Patrick has here for publication an order that all sutlers leave the Army of the Potomac by the 16th. Will not this give

notice of your intended movements? The Secretary of War has stopped it till we learn whether it has your sanction. Regiment of heavy artillery ordered to Harper's Ferry.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 8, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

General Burnside has just returned from New York, where he received your dispatch. I have directed him to go to Annapolis to execute your orders. The Secretary of War suggests that no more of your plans be communicated to General Burnside than may be necessary. Please remember that General Meigs will require some days' notice if he is to supply more transportation than he has on hand.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*April* 8, 1864—3.30 p. m. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

My letter to General Burnside gives no plan, but simply requires him to be ready to move any time he may be notified after the 20th instant with whatever force he may have. I will not want more transportation than you notified me the quartermaster could spare from Washington. A few ferries may be required to take up the James River. The order for publication for the removal of sutlers was without my knowledge and has not my approval.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*April* 8, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

It is the intention to operate up the James River as far as City Point, and all the co-operation the Navy can give we want. Two of the iron-clads are wanted as soon as they can be got. You will know how to communicate our wants to the Secretary of the Navy.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

Copy given to Assistant Secretary Fox, April 9, 1864.

H. W. H.

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 8, 1864—7.30 p. m.
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

Special Order 135 transfers Battery C, First Rhode Island Artillery, to General Burnside. This is one of the batteries retained in

the Army of the Potomac in the reorganization, and unless there is the necessity for it it ought not to be transferred. There is no necessity at all events for sending it back to Washington, even if it is transferred to General Burnside. Burnside will not require transports to move his command.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
*April* 8,* 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following reports have just been received and are respectfully forwarded:

PONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*April* 8, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Two regiments of infantry, with wagons, went into bivouac this p. m. on the main road between Raccoon and Morton's Fords. Two new camps discovered of about one regiment each on the right and about 1 mile in rear of Raccoon Ford. The enemy have completed their work between Raccoon and Somerville Fords. It has eight embrasures, but no guns as yet. All quiet.

PAINE,
*Signal Officer.*

Watery, Stony, and Garnett's Mountains stations report "all quiet and no change in the view from their respective localities."

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.*

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CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 8, 1864.

The commanding general deems it of great importance that General Orders, No. 17, of yesterday's date, from these headquarters, should not reach the public press, and he directs that you give such instructions to your command as may seem to you best calculated to prevent the publication of the order in the newspapers.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

(To corps commanders.)

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

SIR: Referring to paragraph 1 of General Orders, No. 17, of the 7th instant, from these headquarters, I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that it is not his intention to remove the troops from their present positions, in advance of a general movement, unless he shall find that the provisions of that paragraph are not being promptly complied with.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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* Date uncertain; see Paine to Norton, April 9, 5.25 p. m., p. 829.

STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 8, 1864—10 a. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain NORTON:

All quiet. Enemy still working behind Somerville Ford. He is, this a. m., extending intrenchments down the entire slope of the heights.

TAYLOR.

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 8, 1864.
(Received 3.35 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Commanding U. S. Armies, Culpeper:*

I had an interview with Generals Ord and Averell last night. All preparations are going on according to your wishes expressed in your letter of the 4th instant. I will send written report this evening to Washington, to be forwarded to you.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 8, 1864.
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

Maj. T. M. VINCENT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The total number of enlistments to date is 7,892.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Webster:*

I have given the necessary directions in regard to the quartermaster and commissary to be assigned to you.

The troops now assembled at Webster, Grafton, and Beverly will remain on the defensive, but must be prepared to move at short notice. No change in their position at Grafton, Webster, and Beverly should, therefore, be made, as there are indications of enemy's movements against our line between Cumberland and Harper's Ferry. It is necessary to draw a strict line of outposts before Webster and Grafton, and in front of this line. Send, therefore, four companies of infantry to Philippi, with six days' rations, and four companies to Weston, also with six days' rations. The troops have to march immediately, and have to throw out their pickets and prevent any persons not belonging to the army to pass their lines to the south. All such persons coming north must be stopped or sent to your headquarters to be examined, and retained or disposed of as you think proper.

Captain Moore, now at Grafton or Webster, shall take care of the ammunition. I will probably send his battery to you instead of that of Lieutenant Du Pont.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

CHARLESTON, *April* 8, 1864.
(Received 8.50 a. m., 9th.)

Major-General STAHEL:

We will take the Fifth and Seventh Virginia Cavalry instead of the Twentieth Pennsylvania. Please order them and the balance of the Third Virginia at once.

Respectfully,

WM. P. RUCKER,
*Major and Aide-de-Camp.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY, DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 9, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information and decision of the commanding general of the department.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General, Chief of Cavalry.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 8, 1864.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Hon. P. H. WATSON,
*Assistant Secretary of War:*

We are about going into the field. I have got one battalion of Baker's cavalry, and two unmounted battalions are at Washington. I must have them within ten days. Please see that they are equipped. I apply to you because then I always get what I want.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 8, 1864.

Capt. J. A. JUDSON,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army and District of North Carolina:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to transmit a statement in detail of the strength of and disposition of the forces under my command, as requested in your note of the 7th instant:

*Cavalry.*

Third Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry, Lieut. Col. George W. Lewis (twelve companies):

| | Men. |
|---|---|
| Companies A, B, C, E, F, G, I, K, L, and M, stationed at Camp Peck | 417 |
| Companies D and H, at Rocky Run | 78 |
| Total | 495 |

Twelfth Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry, Col. James W. Savage (seven companies):

| | |
|---|---|
| Companies C, G, H, I, and L, stationed at Camp Palmer | 263 |
| Company K, stationed at Brice's Creek | 41 |
| Company M, stationed at Batchelder's Creek | 67 |
| Total | 371 |

*Artillery.*

| | Men. |
|---|---|
| Third Regiment New York Volunteer Artillery, Col. Charles H. Stewart (four companies present), Batteries C, E, I, and K, stationed at New Berne | 522 |
| Fifth Rhode Island Volunteer Artillery, Col. Henry T. Sisson (seven companies present): | |
| Company B, stationed at Fort Spinola | 64 |
| Company D, stationed at Fort Totten | 43 |
| Company F, stationed at Fort Rowan | 53 |
| Company G, stationed at Fort Amory | 47 |
| Company H, stationed at Fort Stevenson | 39 |
| Company I, stationed at Fort Totten | 34 |
| Company K, stationed at Fort Gaston | 33 |
| Total | 313 |
| Second Battalion, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Maj. S. C. Oliver (two companies), Companies E and F, stationed at Fort Totten | 174 |

*Infantry.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Seventeenth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Maj. Luther Day (ten companies): | |
| Five companies on provost-guard duty; five companies in rear of Fort Totten | 454 |
| One hundred and thirty-second New York Volunteer Infantry, Col. P. J. Claassen (ten companies), stationed at Batchelder's Creek | 457 |
| One hundred and fifty-eighth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, Capt. Hyron Kalt (five companies present), stationed at Red House | 265 |
| Ninety-ninth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, Col. D. W. Wardrop (ten companies), stationed at New Berne | 352 |
| Ninety-second Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. Hiram Anderson, jr. (ten companies): | |
| Ten companies stationed at Fort Anderson | 244 |
| A detachment to garrison Fort Chew | 52 |
| Total | 296 |
| Nineteenth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. R. M. Strong (ten companies): | |
| Six companies stationed at New Berne, south side Trent | 235 |
| One company stationed at Evans' Mills | 60 |
| One company stationed at Brice's Creek | 35 |
| One company stationed at Fort Gaston | 37 |
| One company stationed at Fort Spinola | 42 |
| Total | 409 |
| Fifteenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, Lieut. Col. Samuel Tolles (ten companies), stationed at New Berne Fair Grounds | 564 |
| First Regiment U. S. Colored Troops (ten companies), stationed in New Berne, south side Trent | 790 |

*Armaments of forts.*

Fort Rowan: One 100-pounder Parrott; two 32-pounders, long; one 3-inch rifle, brass; one 3-inch rifle, steel; two 8-inch mortars.

Fort Anderson: One 32-pounder rifle; three 32-pounders, smooth; one 32-pounder carronade; one 24-pounder howitzer; one 12-pounder howitzer.

Fort Stevenson: One 32-pounder rifle; four 32-pounders, long.

Fort Gaston: Four 32-pounders, long; three 32-pounders, short.

Fort Totten: Four 32-pounder howitzers; nine 32-pounders, long; two 32-pounder rifles; nine 32-pounder carronades; one 8-inch columbiad; two 8-inch mortars.

Fort Amory: Three 32-pounders, long.

Fort Spinola: Six 32-pounders, long; two 32-pounder rifles.

Fort Chew: Three 24-pounders.

Fort Union: One 100-pounder Parrott; one 32-pounder, long; one 32-pounder, short.

Monitor Car, Batchelder's Creek: Two Wiard, two 6-inch.

Third Regiment New York Volunteer Artillery: Ten pieces 3-inch, four pieces 3.67-inch, six pieces 4.62-inch.

Twelfth Regiment New York Cavalry: Two mountain howitzers.

*Recapitulation of troops.*

| | Men. |
|---|---|
| Third Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry | 495 |
| Twelfth Regiment New York Volunteer Cavalry | 371 |
| Third Regiment New York Volunteer Artillery | 522 |
| Fifth Regiment Rhode Island Volunteer Artillery | 313 |
| Second Battalion, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery | 174 |
| Seventeenth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry | 454 |
| One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry | 457 |
| One hundred and fifty-eighth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry (detachment) | 265 |
| Ninety-ninth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry | 352 |
| Ninety-second Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry | 296 |
| Nineteenth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry | 409 |
| Fifteenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry | 564 |
| First Regiment U. S. Colored Troops | 790 |
| Total | 5,462 |

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 8, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HEINTZELMAN,
*Columbus, Ohio:*

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that you cause a thorough examination to be made in your department so as to get every available man into the field as early as possible. All delays, irregularities, and neglects to forward the men should be reported to the Adjutant-General of the Army that the necessary orders may be issued. All recruits and new organizations and all the old troops that can possibly be spared from Ohio and Michigan are to rendezvous at Washington, and all in Indiana and Illinois at Louisville. This order does not apply to veterans, who will return to the commands to which they belong, unless otherwise specially ordered, nor does it apply to recruits for particular corps. The lieutenant-general wishes the old troops in your department reduced to the lowest number of men necessary for the duty to be performed.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF DELAWARE,
*Wilmington, April* 8, 1864.

Lieut. Col. S. B. LAWRENCE,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Middle Dept., Eighth Corps, Baltimore:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to your telegram of the 4th instant, received at 10 p.m. same day, I proceeded to Salisbury, Eastern Shore of Maryland, on the morning of the 5th instant, by special train, taking with me Capt. Solomon Townsend's company (D of the First Delaware Cavalry), numbering 3 commissioned officers and 60 enlisted men. Looking to the very probable want of a few mounted men to act as couriers and to send to distant election precincts, I took with me Orderly Sergt. Joseph J. Janney and 20 men of Company C, Purnell Maryland

Cavalry, with their horses. Arriving at Salisbury on the evening of the 5th, I placed myself in communication with the leading Union citizens within reach, and from their information and at their request I sent detachments, at 5 o'clock on the morning of the 6th, to the following districts of Somerset County, Md., viz: Quantico district, 1 non-commissioned officer and 9 men (infantry), distance 9 miles from Salisbury; to Barren Creek district, 12 miles from Salisbury, 1 non-commissioned officer and 5 men (cavalry); to Trappe district, distance 8 miles from Salisbury, 1 non-commissioned officer and 9 men (infantry); to Princess Anne district, distance 15 miles from Salisbury, 1 sergeant and 7 men (cavalry); to Dublin district, distance 15 miles from Salisbury, 1 non-commissioned officer and 5 men (cavalry). In Worcester County the following detachments were sent: To Nutter's district, distant 4 miles from Salisbury, 1 non-commissioned officer and 9 men (infantry); to Colbourne's district, distant 12 miles from Salisbury, 1 commissioned officer and 7 men (infantry), and to Cross-Roads district, distant 12 miles from Salisbury, 1 commissioned officer and 7 men (infantry). These two last detachments were sent in ambulances obtained from Adjutant Rastall, First Eastern Shore Maryland Regiment Infantry. The officers and non-commissioned officers commanding these detachments had orders to march within 1 mile of the election precinct and then notify the judges of their presence and that they were ready to render them any protection and assistance that was asked for. In but two instances were they thus called on—at Nutter's and Colbourne's districts in Worcester County. To both of these requests the commanding officers of the detachments promptly replied by marching their men to the election precinct and remained until they were informed by the judges of election that their presence was no longer necessary. By midnight all the detachments had returned to Salisbury, and I am happy to report that their conduct was excellent throughout. I left Salisbury yesterday at noon and arrived here with my troops last evening at 7 p. m.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN R. KENLY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*April* 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

For information, and as instructions to govern your preparations for the coming campaign, the following is communicated confidentially, for your own perusal alone:

So far as practicable, all the armies are to move together and toward one common center. Banks has been instructed to turn over the guarding of the Red River to General Steele and to the navy, to abandon Texas with the exception of the Rio Grande, and to concentrate all the force he can—not less than 25,000 men—to move on Mobile. This he is to do without reference to any other movements. From the scattered condition of his command, however, he cannot possibly get it together to leave New Orleans before the 1st of May, if so soon.

Sherman will move at the same time you do, or two or three days

in advance, Joe Johnston's army being his objective point and the heart of Georgia his ultimate aim. If successful, he will secure the line from Chattanooga to Mobile, with the aid of Banks.

Sigel cannot spare troops from his army to re-enforce either of the great armies, but he can aid them by moving directly to his front. This he has been directed to do, and is now making preparations for it. Two columns of his command will move south at the same time with the general move, one from Beverly, from 10,000 to 12,000 strong, under Major-General Ord; the other from Charleston, W. Va., principally cavalry, under Brigadier-General Crook. The former of these will endeavor to reach the Tennessee and Virginia Railroad about south of Covington, and if found practicable will work eastward to Lynchburg and return to its base by way of the Shenandoah Valley or join you. The other will strike at Saltville, Va., and come eastward to join Ord. The cavalry from Ord's command will try to force a passage southward; if they are successful in reaching the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, to cut the main lines of the road connecting Richmond with all the South and Southwest.

Gillmore will join Butler with about 10,000 men from South Carolina. Butler can reduce his garrison so as to take 23,000 men into the field directly to his front. The force will be commanded by Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith. With Smith and Gillmore, Butler will seize City Point and operate against Richmond from the south side of the river. His movement will be simultaneous with yours.

Lee's army will be your objective point. Wherever Lee goes, there you will go also. The only point upon which I am now in doubt is whether it will be better to cross the Rapidan above or below him. Each plan presents great advantages over the other, with corresponding objections. By crossing above, Lee is cut off from all chance of ignoring Richmond and going north on a raid; but if we take this route all we do must be done while the rations we start with hold out; we separate from Butler, so that he cannot be directed how to co-operate. By the other route, Brandy Station can be used as a base of supplies until another is secured on the York or James River. These advantages and objections I will talk over with you more fully than I can write them.

Burnside, with a force of probably 25,000 men, will re-enforce you. Immediately upon his arrival, which will be shortly after the 20th instant, I will give him the defense of the road from Bull Run as far south as we wish to hold it. This will enable you to collect all your strength about Brandy Station and to the front.

There will be naval co-operations on the James River, and transports and ferries will be provided, so that should Lee fall back into his intrenchments at Richmond Butler's force and yours will be a unit, or at least can be made to act as such.

What I would direct, then, is that you commence at once reducing baggage to the very lowest possible standard. Two wagons to a regiment of 500 men is the greatest number that should be allowed for all baggage, exclusive of subsistence stores and ordnance stores. One wagon to brigade and one to division headquarters is sufficient, and about two to corps headquarters.

Should by Lee's right flank be our route, you will want to make arrangements for having supplies of all sorts promptly forwarded to White House, on the Pamunkey. Your estimates for this contingency should be made at once. If not wanted there, there is every probability they will be wanted on the James River or elsewhere.

If Lee's left is turned, large provision will have to be made for ordnance stores. I would say not much short of 500 rounds of infantry ammunition would do. By the other, half the amount would be sufficient.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, ENGINEER DEPT.,
*April* 9, 1864.

Memorandum: Three companies of the Fiftieth New York Engineers to be attached to each corps. Each detachment provided with a pontoon train, and are to take charge of the intrenching tools of the corps to which they are attached. These detachments should be inspected from time to time in order to determine whether their trains are in a state of efficiency.

[J. C. DUANE,
*Chief Engineer.*]

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 9, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that one battalion of the Fourth New York Foot Artillery be assigned to each of the three corps. I would recommend that the battalions be detailed by Colonel Tidball, chief of artillery, Second Corps. The regiment is camped with that corps.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 9,* 1864—5.25 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Two regiments of infantry, with wagons, have gone into bivouac this p. m. on the main road between Raccoon and Morton's Fords. Two new camps of about one regiment each discovered on right and about 1 mile in rear of Raccoon Ford. The enemy have completed their work between Raccoon and Somerville Fords. It has eight embrasures, but no guns as yet. All quiet elsewhere.

PAINE.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 9, 1864—10.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The commanding officer of the Cavalry Corps has been authorized to draw in the 100 men of Gregg's division now patrolling from Bealeton to Morrisville. A regiment of General Gregg's command is ordered to Morrisville and a regiment of General Kilpatrick's command to the vicinity of Grove Church.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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*See foot-note, p. 822.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 9, 1864—6.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

General Sheridan reports that General Torbert has not yet received the order directing him to report for duty with the Cavalry Corps. The commanding general directs that General Torbert report to General Sheridan to-morrow morning.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 9, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I inclose herewith for your perusal a communication* from Colonel Sharpe, which please return.

The major-general commanding directs that you send detachments to surprise and capture the scouting parties referred to therein, and that a force of cavalry be maintained in the vicinity of Grove Church for the purpose of ridding that section of the country of those parties. A regiment of cavalry, the Eighteenth Pennsylvania, was recently withdrawn temporarily from the vicinity of Grove Church to the vicinity of Morrisville, owing to the difficulty of supplying it during the stormy weather.

Castleton, or Castle Mountain, is on Hazel River, above the mouth of Thornton River. Major Duane, chief engineer, is directed to send you a map showing its position. If there is no one in your command familiar with that part of the country, a guide may probably be obtained from the provost-marshal-general or from Major Duane.

Very respectfully,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

I have ordered the regiment at Morrisville to Grove Church, and a regiment from Gregg's division to take post at Morrisville. Directions have been given to accomplish object required in your instructions of to-day. As soon as proper guides can be obtained I will endeavor to surprise the party at Castle Mountain, should it be there.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 9, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The movements indicated in the instructions of to-day should be postponed until the weather admits of their being made.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Comdg. Second Cavalry Division, Warrenton, Va.:*

The general commanding directs that you station a regiment from your command at Morrisville, to replace the regiment of General Kilpatrick's now there and which has been ordered to the vicinity of Grove Church. Direct the commanding officer to send out frequent scouts in the direction of Tackett's Mills.

There are numerous rebel scouts in the vicinity of Grove Church, United States Ford, Stafford Court-House, and Tackett's Mills. Major-General Meade is exceedingly anxious to have them driven from the country, killed, or captured, and directs the officer in command to be very vigilant, and to collect as much information as possible of the enemy. The regiment may be alternated at your pleasure, and will be supplied from depot.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 9, 1864.

Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

COLONEL: To comply with the order to send a regiment to Morrisville will make it difficult to maintain the picket-line necessary to protect the camps of this division, separated as the brigades are. There are but four regiments in the brigade at Warrenton, not more than enough to hold the position if attacked. The other brigade camped between Warrenton and the Junction, but four regiments present. Can I not have relieved the detail of 100 men at Bealeton, as they will not be required when a regiment is at Morrisville?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.
(Received 12 midnight.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

Your dispatch in regard to Lieutenant Meigs is received. I can send him with Generals Ord and Averell, although I am sorry to lose

him from my staff, as he is familiar with all the work in progress and in contemplation, and is a disbursing officer. I believe that the interests of the service require a regular engineer officer to take his place.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April 9, 1864.*

I. Commanders of divisions and separate brigades within this department will send to these headquarters, at least once each day, a telegraphic report stating whether any, and, if any, what information has been received in regard to the enemy, and whether any, and, if any, what changes have been made in the position of their troops.

II. The following officers are announced as assigned to staff duty at these headquarters:

Lieut. Col. W. C. Starr, Ninth West Virginia Infantry, acting provost-marshal-general of the department.

Maj. J. C. Campbell, judge-advocate.

Capt. P. G. Bier, U. S. Volunteers, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. John Carlin, First West Virginia Artillery, chief of artillery and acting chief of ordnance.

Capt. F. E. Town, Signal Corps, chief signal officer.

Capt. Thomas G. Putnam, Fifteenth New York Cavalry, and Capt. R. Adams, jr., Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, aides-de-camp.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 72. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April 9, 1864.*

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II. The division commanded by Brig. Gen. J. C. Sullivan, U. S. Volunteers, hereby designated as the First Infantry Division of this department, will be organized as follows:

Col. A. Moor, Twenty-eighth Ohio Infantry, at Beverly, will organize the following regiments into a provisional brigade, to be known as the First: Twenty-eighth Ohio Infantry, Tenth West Virginia Infantry, Eleventh West Virginia Infantry, Third Pennsylvania Reserves, Fourth Pennsylvania Reserves.

Col. J. Thoburn, First West Virginia Infantry, will take command of and form into a provisional brigade, to be known as the Second, the following regiments: First West Virginia Infantry, Twelfth West Virginia Infantry, Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry, Fifteenth West Virginia Infantry.

The commanders of these brigades will make requisitions for staff officers to these headquarters, so that those regularly appointed may be assigned to them. Meanwhile they will detail from their commands respectively such officers as may be found competent to discharge the duties of staff officers.

In accordance with the foregoing, the two regiments under the command of Col. A. Moor are hereby detached from the Cavalry

Division (formerly the Fourth Division), Department of West Virginia, and Colonel Moor will report by letter to General Sullivan at Grafton for orders.

Batteries B, Fifth U. S. Artillery, and D, First West Virginia Artillery, will report for the present to General Sullivan.

Battery B, First West Virginia Artillery, will remain attached to Colonel Moor's brigade until further orders.

III. Brig. Gen. Max Weber having reported for duty at these headquarters, under orders of the War Department, is hereby assigned to the command of the defenses of Harper's Ferry, and of all the troops stationed there and on the railroad between Sleepy Creek and the Monocacy, formerly belonging to the First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. J. C. Sullivan.

The troops mentioned will be organized into a separate brigade, to be known as the First Separate Brigade, Department of West Virginia.

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By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, *April* 9, 1864.
(Received 10th.)

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL:

GENERAL: Will you please send me the Fifth and Seventh Virginia Regiments of Cavalry instead of the Twentieth Pennsylvania Cavalry? Please send them at once.

Respectfully,

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WINCHESTER, *April* 9, 1864.
(Received 10 a. m.)

General W. W. AVERELL:

GENERAL: I arrived in Winchester early this morning; no enemy in this place. After the skirmish took place yesterday the rebels fell back through the town on the Strasburg pike; made no halt. I will go to Newtown. The number, according to the best information I can get, was about 100 men, under command of Major Calmese and Captain Ross.

Very respectfully,

F. G. MARTINDALE,
*Captain, First New York Cavalry.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE CAVALRY,
*Charleston, W. Va., April* 9, 1864.

Col. F. E. FRANKLIN,
*Comdg. Thirty-fourth Regt. Mounted Ohio Vol. Inf.:*

SIR: You will please order one squadron from your command, of not less than 100 men, to proceed to Barboursville or into Cabell

and Putnam Counties, in pursuit of a party of rebels reported to be in that vicinity. They will be provided with three days' rations and forage. They will be ready and will report at division headquarters at 5 a. m. to-morrow. The captain commanding will immediately report to these headquarters for instructions.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. N. Duffié:

E. W. CLARK, JR.,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ANNAPOLIS, MD., *April* 9, 1864.
(Received 5 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper:*

Dispatch received. Have given necessary orders. Go north to-night to hurry up new regiments. Will be here Thursday, or earlier if you desire. A telegram sent here will follow me promptly.

A. E. BURNSIDE.

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FLAG-SHIP NORTH ATLANTIC BLOCKADING SQUADRON,
*Off Newport News, Va., April* 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: The vicinity of Smithfield and Chuckatuck are known to be infested by guerrillas, who are reported to have boats concealed up those creeks and their tributaries. You are aware that the rebels have an organized system of boat expeditions all along the coast, operating at one time from creeks in Mathews and Gloucester Counties against the Eastern Shore counties, Cape Charles lighthouse, &c.; at another time against the gun-boat Underwriter at New Berne, and now against this ship here. In all these cases they harbor in the vicinity of their operations. This was explained by your prisoner, Acting Master Webb, of the rebel Navy, captured while thus engaged in the Neck counties near Yorktown, where, as in the vicinity of Smithfield, &c., the small creeks are numerous and not accessible to our gun-boats. It is believed that the little torpedo-boat which struck this vessel last night, happily without accomplishing its object, came out of Pagan and Chuckatuck Creeks or their tributaries. I respectfully suggest that you send at once a sufficient force to capture these rebels and destroy their boats on the upper creeks and to co-operate with a naval force to prevent their escape by the river, which I will send as soon as you are ready.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, yours,

S. P. LEE,
*Acting Rear-Admiral, Comdg. N. A. B. Squadron.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 10, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

No change in enemy's camps. Rapidan and Robertson Rivers very high. Half of railroad bridge on this side gone.

FULLER,
*Lieutenant.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

General Merritt reports 7 deserters having come in to his lines yesterday; 5 of them are conscripts, and 2 deserters from Alabama regiments. A large number of conscripts are reported in Blue Ridge. Report of destruction of Fredericksburg is denied.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

I have the honor to forward you a copy of dispatch just received from General Kilpatrick, for what it is worth:

STEVENSBURG, *April* 10, 1864.

Colonel SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Citizens inform my officer in command of outposts at Grove Church that all rebel troops on that side of the river have been ordered back. They give as a reason, anticipated movements.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General.*

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Warrenton:*

General Meade has ordered all cavalrymen now on duty with infantry commanders to report to their regiments. There is also a fair prospect of the regiments now on the railroad being ordered back to you. The detachment of 100 men at Bealeton you have been directed to call in.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

BEALETON, *April* 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General KILPATRICK,
*Commanding Third Division Cavalry:*

Have reached here all right. Lost some men in crossing Mountain Run. Captain Judson was at this point to-day for forage; had no news from Morrisville. The command from Second Division has just passed—6.15 p. m.

E. W. WHITAKER,
*Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp.*

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report all quiet. The scouting party of 50 men sent out from Vienna yesterday have returned, bringing with them 9 prisoners, 3 of whom are citizens and the remainder rebel soldiers. 8 horses and 5 horse equipments. They were unable to find Mark Roderick, referred to in your telegram. Another attempt will be made to cause his arrest at an early date. Notices were left at the houses of Messrs. Carver and Gardner, which they will probably receive in a few days. No mail has reached these headquarters to-day. It is rumored that some bridges between Alexandria and Fairfax Station have been carried away by the storms of yesterday.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 10, 1864.
(Received 12 midnight.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper:*

Your dispatch in regard to Lieutenant Meigs received. He is just now in Baltimore to make arrangements for some engineer work, but is expected to be back to-morrow. I will send him to you at such time as you want him to report. I will make application for another engineer officer, as there is no officer here whom I can detail. I have sent written report and map to Washington on the evening of the 9th instant. I could not telegraph sooner because the wires were down.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 10, 1864.
(Received Cumberland, 4.05 p. m.)

Major-General SIGEL,
*Commanding:*

The skirmish at Winchester was between two companies of rebels and 150 men of the Sixth and Seventh Virginia and Fourteenth Pennsylvania, under Major Hunter. The enemy was first driven out of the town a mile, when the attack was abandoned by Major Hunter and our men brought back to this side of the town, where the criminal carelessness of the commander exposed them to an attack which was a surprise. The enemy was pursued yesterday across Cedar Creek, but the sudden rise from the recent heavy rain made it impracticable to go farther after them. Major Hunter lost 27 men prisoners. Will send full report to-morrow. Major Hunter has been arrested.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS, *New York, April* 10, 1864.

The following badge is announced as the badge of the Ninth Army Corps:

A shield with the figure 9 in the center, crossed with a foul anchor and cannon, to be worn on the top of the cap or front of the hat.

The First Division to be of red, with gilt anchor, cannon, and number.

The Second Division to be of white, with gilt anchor, cannon, and number.

The Third Division to be of blue, with gilt anchor, cannon, and number.

The Fourth Division to be of green, with gilt anchor, cannon, and number.

Corps headquarters of red, white, and blue, with gilt anchor, cannon, and green number.

Those who desire can also wear a medal of the same design, made of gold or gilt, silver or white metal, bronze or copper, to be attached to the left breast of the coat as a pin or suspended by a red, white, and blue ribbon. The designs for this badge are now in the hands of Messrs. Tiffany & Co., New York, and samples will be at headquarters about the 27th.

By command of Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside:

EDWARD M. NEILL,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. 18TH ARMY CORPS, DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
*Fort Monroe, April* 10, 1864.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
*Comdg. North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:*

ADMIRAL: I have your note in relation to the pirates of the creeks and inlets of the James River and the means of destroying them, and am desirous of co-operating with you in that object. I have therefore sent General Graham, who is charged with the duty of making all such dispositions as you may judge necessary after conference with him, for the purpose indicated.

Very respectfully, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Comdg. Dist. of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to instruct you to send the following batteries to this point, viz: Batteries K and E, Third New York Artillery. I am further instructed to direct you to use the first available transportation in sending the Third New York Cavalry to this point, and any surplus transportation will be used in forwarding the batteries. The commanding general directs that the utmost endeavors be used in expediting this movement,

and that all officers under your command connected with this movement be instructed to forward the same with the utmost dispatch. All horses belonging to the Third New York Cavalry will be sent, and any of the men who may be dismounted will be sent with the regiment.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. DAVIS,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

PROVIDENCE, R. I., *April* 11, 1864.
(Received 11.15 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper Court-House, Va.:*

Will probably get all new regiments from New England off this week. If I am at Annapolis on Thursday will I be in season to meet you?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Major-General.*

---

CULPEPER, VA., *April* 11, 1864.
(Received 2 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Providence, R. I.:*

I will be at Annapolis Wednesday.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 11, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

The troops reported by me on the 8th instant were a portion of at least two brigades visible that have rejoined the command on Clark's Mountain. All quiet.

PAINE.

---

STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 11, 1864—10 a. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain NORTON:

All quiet. Four guns are in position on the work on heights behind Dr. Morton's house.

TAYLOR.

---

PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 11, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

One hundred men at work to day intrenching on crest of hill near the river, 1 mile east of Somerville Ford. All quiet.

PAINE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 11, 1864—7 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

Lieutenant-General Grant went to Washington this afternoon. I presume he will not be back before day after to-morrow. I will let you know when he returns.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

A regiment from General Kilpatrick's division has taken post at Grove Church and will scout to United States Ford and in the direction of Stafford Court-House. A regiment from General Gregg has taken post at Morrisville and will scout to Tackett's Mills and White Bridge. These dispositions and scouting parties, with General Gregg's division at Warrenton, should obviate the necessity of keeping the regiment now scattered along the railroad on duty there. I respectfully request that it be relieved and ordered to report to General Gregg.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

Cavalry on railroad to remain. That at Morrisville may be withdrawn, if desired.

A. A. H.

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 11, 1864—4 p. m.

Colonel SMITH,
*Chief of Staff:*

The officer at Grove Church confirms the report of yesterday, that the small parties of the enemy on the other side of the river are ordered back; a few scouts yet remain. All quiet.

J. KILPATRICK,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*April* 11, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Received 12.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

I have directed the Thirty-sixth Ohio to be ordered to General Crook. If I can send you an engineer officer in place of Lieutenant Meigs, I will do so. If one is not sent, exercise your own judgment about letting him go into the field.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, April* 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Culpeper Court House:*

Your dispatch in regard to the Thirty-sixth Ohio and Lieutenant Meigs is received.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 11, 1864—11.30 a. m.
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

The following telegram from Col. George D. Wells, at Harper's Ferry, is just received:

The railroad bridge will be impassable for seven days. The village bridge is uninjured, but wholly taken up. If the water falls it may be laid in two days.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 11, 1864.
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR, *Washington:*

The following dispatch from General Averell, at Martinsburg, is just received:

Commanding officer at Point of Rocks telegraphs he is reliably informed that there is a party of 300 rebel cavalry at Waterford, and some in sight on the opposite bank.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL,
*Commanding Cavalry Division, Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

GENERAL: By orders this day issued the Seventh West Virginia Cavalry was transferred to the Third Division. The general commanding department directs me to state that this order was founded on what he deemed, after a careful view of the circumstances, the necessities of the public service. He would have been pleased to have allowed it to remain with you, but decided that its services were imperatively demanded in the Kanawha Valley.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 11, 1864.
(Received 2.20 a. m., 12th.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL, *Chief of Cavalry:*

I need 3,500 horses to mount my command now here, and I presume 1,000 will be required to mount those to return. The arms

required, and for which requisitions have been made, are as follows: Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, 465 Burnside carbines; Twenty-first New York Veteran Cavalry, 566 revolvers, 106 Burnside carbines; Taylor's First New York Veteran Cavalry, 320 revolvers, 750 Spencer carbines; First Virginia Veteran Cavalry, 337 Spencer carbines, 400 revolvers. The First New York Veteran Cavalry, McReynolds, are now making requisitions for 276 revolvers, 484 Burnside carbines, 250 sets horse equipments.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

The guerrillas attacked and drove in our pickets last night at Paw Paw and other points on the railroad, and patrol was attacked at Michael's Gap, 2½ miles above the mouth of the Cacapon. Please send out as soon as possible a scouting party in their rear to scout the country between the Cacapon and South Branch of the Potomac. I will send a force from Springfield, Va.

Respectfully,

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 11, 1864.
(Received 5.52 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

The Cacapon is impassable and I think Back Creek is not fordable. Will send party out. Everything quiet up the valley.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

It is reported that a force of 150 rebels is between Sleepy Creek and the Great Cacapon. Send with the least possible delay 100 cavalry to Sir John's Run by railroad to scout the whole country between Sleepy Creek and the Great Cacapon. They will then remain at Bath until further orders and keep communication with the infantry at Sir John's Run and Hancock.

J. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 11, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL:

Back Creek was found fordable and a scouting party of 60 men were sent toward Bloomery Gap, four hours ago. It will take until morning to send 100 cavalry to Sir John's Run.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *April* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

The guerrillas that attacked our infantry last night have been driven back and some prisoners taken. They have separated into two parties, one party going toward Romney, the other toward North River Mills. Please send your party mentioned in my telegram of this p. m. to North River to intercept them or drive them entirely out of that part of the country. I will send after those at Romney.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Commanding Division, Martinsburg:*

We must be very careful and act promptly. We had several skirmishes between here and Sir John's Run within the last twenty-four hours, and I fear that a rebel band will come in at Sir John's Run to-night. I can send no infantry of any amount there.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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WATER STATION, *April* 11, 1864—12 m.

Lieut. W. H. ROSE,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Two men wounded—Wesby and Roney, Company K. Patrol was attacked at Michael's Gap, 2½ miles above mouth of Cacapon, by about 30 men, 20 minutes before express passed from west. Pickets from Paw Paw were driven in 11 o'clock by about 20 men, as reported by pickets. Everything quiet this morning; but 1 rebel seen since daylight. Doctor Hunter has gone to Cacapon, wounded severely both in groin and left side.

E. D. YUTZY.

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 11, 1864—12.30 a. m.
(Received 2 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Commanding Armies, Culpeper:*

The following dispatch from Brigadier-General Crook, Charleston, has been received:

CHARLESTON, W. VA., *April* 10, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General SIGEL:

I want another infantry regiment here in order to carry out my part of the programme. General Grant promised me conditionally the Thirty-sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, now on furlough at Marietta, Ohio. The conditions referred to will be complied with. Will you please ask General Grant for this regiment direct? Their furlough is out on the 19th instant. They have their arms with them.

CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General CROOK, *Charleston, Kanawha:*

Lieutenant-General Grant answers that he has ordered the Thirty-sixth Ohio to report to you. In regard to the Eighth Ohio Cavalry, I do not know where it is now, and have asked for information at the War Department. General Stahel is directed to do everything in his power to have your cavalry regiments mounted at once. Communicate with him in all that relates to cavalry forces.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 11, 1864—5 p. m.
(Received 11 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

I am much embarrassed with the movements of the French vessels, about getting their tobacco from Richmond. Allowing two vessels of war and sundry merchant ships to go up and down the James River for the next thirty days will as effectually inform the rebels of our movements as if I officially reported them to Seddon. Shall they go on?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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NEWPORT NEWS, *April* 11, 1864.
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.:*

Captain De Marivault, of the French man-of-war Tisiphone, called on me this morning. The French man-of-war Grenade and one transport are also in the roads. Captain De Marivault expects another transport in a few days. He will be ready to go up James River with one transport day after to-morrow. He asks if he is at liberty to pass up when he is ready, and I have replied that he can go at the time he mentioned. He thinks that no report to me is necessary of the quantity of tobacco moved, but would have no objection to making it. I supposed this to be called for by the convention, but would not accept it, as at present advised. Please instruct me if this movement of tobacco is to go on now, and if any report is required of quantity moved. Each transport is to be towed by a French man-of-war. General Butler informed me the other day that he would telegraph the War Department as to this movement of tobacco at this time, to which he said he had no objection. Please reply by telegraph.

S. P. LEE,
*Acting Rear-Admiral.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 12, 1864—5 p. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain NORTON:

All quiet. I see a party of rebel infantrymen playing ball on field near Tobaccostick Ford, indicating infantry pickets at that point. Have seen no infantry before below Stringfellow's Ford.

TAYLOR.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

Instructions have just been sent to General Torbert, commanding First Cavalry Division, to capture, if possible, the party of the enemy reported encamped on Castle Mountain. He has been directed not to make the attempt until there is an unquestionable certainty of crossing Hazel River without great difficulty. He has officers and men in his division who are familiar with the country.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 12, 1864.
(Received at 3.25 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*General-in-Chief:*

Colonel Moor, commanding at Beverly, reports on inquiries made by me in regard to the roads north and south of Beverly:

The road from Baker to Beverly is for about one-half (or 25 miles) one continued canal of mud, 3 and 4 feet deep, with pointed rocks at the bottom. Six horses are required to draw 800 pounds, making only one trip in eight days. From what I learn of farmers and old road repairers it will require at least two weeks' very fair weather and 2,000 hands to bring the road into condition for speedy transportation. The road from Beverly south to Huntersville, especially through the Mingo Flats, is reported as to beggar description, repairs having been neglected since 1861. The rushing waters of the mountain washed large portions of it entirely away. On Staunton pike, across Cheat Mountain and Greenbrier Mountain, is probably the best, as less traveling was done on it, as far at least as Greenbrier River, but cannot at present be examined. The average depth of snow on the mountain is 4 feet, and in the passes and roads deeper yet.

I must add that Colonel Moor is a very reliable and experienced officer, who has been in West Virginia since 1861, and was with Averell last winter.

General J. C. Sullivan telegraphs from Webster that the road to Beverly is impassable for artillery.

General Crook telegraphs from Charleston:

Unless I can get the horses soon to mount my men with they will be too late for this expedition. It will require all the troops that have been promised me to be effective men to make my part of the expedition successful, and mine is the important part. It is essential that both my raw men and horses be trained a little before commencing this difficult move. When will the Eighth Ohio Cavalry be here?

Everything is done to get the horses for Generals Crook and Averell, but at least one-third of our cavalry is dismounted and we cannot buy as many horses and as fast as we want them.

I ask for information at Washington in regard to the Eighth Ohio Cavalry, which, as I learn from Cavalry Bureau, has neither horses nor arms, nor has a requisition been made before.

The Twentieth Pennsylvania Cavalry arrived here with 1,000 men, but only 150 horses and no arms except sabers. From what I see and could learn it seems to me that it would be a very difficult task to march a column from Webster to Lewisburg, a distance of 147 miles, with artillery and ammunition and provisions for ten days, even if the weather should be very good during the next two weeks. The

line from Charleston and Gauley Bridge to Lewisburg is much shorter—only 60 miles—and troops can be brought to those two points (Charleston and Gauley Bridge) by railroad and water very quickly and without difficulty.

A column advancing by Beverly and coming to a stand-still will be a lost power, as it can neither assist us in the Shenandoah nor co-operate well with General Crook. I would therefore respectfully suggest, although with some reluctance, as I am not acquainted with your plans, to re-enforce General Crook with 2,000 or 3,000 good infantry, besides Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry, with two or three batteries and at least 1,000 cavalry available at present, besides that ordered to him. This would enable General Crook to move very soon to attain the main object without depending on the troops from Webster. A small corps of observation composed of good infantry, with some good cavalry, could advance from Beverly toward Huntersville to draw the attention of the enemy to this direction and to hold connection with the forces in the Kanawha. Meanwhile the rest of our troops could be assembled between Harper's Ferry and Cumberland, to cover this section of the country and the railroad and to prepare for a movement through the Shenandoah Valley, where the road is good. There is no doubt that the enemy is aware of our intended concentration of a large force at Beverly, because, having been informed by General Ord to be there on the 8th, I made my arrangements accordingly and moved some of the troops and stores to that point. In modifying the programme this premature movement to Beverly would be a feint to the enemy and no harm to us. I, however, wait for your decision, and hope you will pardon me for expressing my opinion frankly to you.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 12, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

Your letter received. Will not a week or ten days' good weather make the programme laid out in my previous instructions practicable? The route you now suggest, that is, by sending the whole force to Gauley Bridge to start, was my idea exactly, simply consulting the map, without any personal knowledge of the country to be traversed. Consultation, however, with officers who had been in the country induced me to give the instructions I did. The late rain has so far set back offensive operations that we can change plan, if found necessary, any time in the next ten days.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 12, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 7.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Washington, D. C.:*

Your dispatch of to-day is received. I will continue in making all dispositions necessary to carry out your programme. According to it there would be only three regiments of infantry left, besides the

rest of Averell's cavalry, to defend or move up the Shenandoah Valley. Ten would go with General Ord, six with General Crook, besides the Thirty-sixth Ohio, and four would be posted on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad from Monocacy to Parkersburg, among them two Maryland and one Virginia regiments, raised for local defense, and necessary to guard our stores and depots and to load and unload trains.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 12, 1864.

I. Commanding officers at stations within this department, between the Monocacy River and Parkersburg, are directed to send all deserters from the enemy, guerrillas, agents, and spies in the interest of the so-called Confederate States, and also refugees from sections held by the rebels, to the commanding officer at Harper's Ferry, Va., or to the provost-marshal-general of the Department, at Cumberland, Md., or to the senior officer at Clarksburg, Va., as may be most convenient. Those coming within our lines at points in the Kanawha Valley will be reported to the commanding general of the Third Division, at Charleston, W. Va.

II. Strict examination and prompt disposition will be made in each case. Deserters may ordinarily be discharged upon taking the oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States, and may receive employment on fortifications or other public works within the department; but in cases where it is considered unsafe to allow them to remain, or be employed in the immediate vicinity of our lines, they will be sent to some point in the interior and there be discharged. Descriptive lists will be forwarded weekly to the military provost-marshal-general of the department, at Cumberland, showing the regiment or other organization to which they belonged, the place of residence and enlistment, and the disposition ordered. Refugees will be discharged after examination, and may be employed at any place within the lines, but all persons suspected of being guerrillas, spies, &c., will be sent to the provost-marshal at these headquarters for further examination and trial.

III. No persons residing within this department, on or south of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and not belonging to the Army of the United States, will be allowed to keep or bear arms, except the following:

First. Those belonging to the State militia, who are able to furnish proof that they are accepted and acknowledged as members of that organization. For this purpose they must be provided with the necessary papers.

Second. Those belonging to companies organized by His Excellency the Governor of the State of West Virginia, under a special act of the Legislature, and acting as scouts.

Third. Scouts and agents sent out from department, division, or separate brigade headquarters.

All other persons, loyal or disloyal, will deliver their arms to the nearest commanding officer or military provost-marshal, with their names affixed thereto, so that they may be properly cared for and returned when the public safety will admit. All such arms will be

sent either to Harper's Ferry, Cumberland, or Charleston, and turned over to the proper officer.

After the promulgation of this order, persons not belonging to any of the classes herein mentioned found keeping, concealing, or bearing arms will be arrested and tried by military commission.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 15. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 12, 1864.

The First Cavalry Division of this department, under command of Brig. Gen. W. W. Averell, will be composed of the following regiments, to be brigaded as the commanding officer of the division may deem proper: First New York Cavalry, First New York Veteran Cavalry, Twenty-first New York Cavalry, Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, First West Virginia Cavalry, Sixth West Virginia Cavalry.

All communications, reports, and returns from this division will be sent direct to Maj. Gen. J. Stahel, chief of cavalry of the department.

Commanding officers of the remaining cavalry organizations within the department, except the cavalry attached to the command of Brig. Gen. George Crook, will report in writing, without delay, to Maj. Gen. J. Stahel, chief of cavalry, for instructions and orders, but will remain meanwhile in communication with the commanding officers of the organizations to which they are at present attached, and will draw their supplies from them.

Brig. Gen. George Crook will furnish such reports and returns in relation to the cavalry of his command as the chief of cavalry of the department may at times require.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *April* 12, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

I have received a report from the provost-marshal at Point of Rocks that Mosby, with 400 men, is there impressing horses, teams, and corn in and about Hamilton, Loudoun County, and taking them to Upperville; also that a squad of 20 rebels were at Waterford yesterday evening. I sent word back that for want of cavalry I could render no aid. If I send infantry Mosby would retire without loss and return as soon as they left.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER:

Your dispatch received. You have not cavalry enough to take care of Loudoun County, and your infantry cannot be sent away from

the defenses. General Averell and Colonel Taylor are in charge of the outposts toward Winchester, and have to guard the roads leading to the Ferry. I will make an arrangement during the next few days in regard to cavalry, and inform you. Report at least once a day what information you have received. I have also received your letters.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

Your letter of yesterday is received. You can begin the transfer of your troops as indicated in your letter, but the general commanding directs that until further orders you will send but 1,500 men to be stationed at Clarksburg and Webster. The transfer of the remount camp and hospital to Pleasant Valley is satisfactory. I have telegraphed to the Chief of Ordnance in relation to the arms and equipments of your command, and will inform you as soon as I receive a reply. Please inform me if requisition for horses for your entire command has been forwarded to the Cavalry Bureau. The mares will not be received by the Cavalry Bureau. Your statement of the horses required in yesterday's telegram appears to be considerably larger than your former statement to the chief quartermaster. If the demand for horses in your division is so large and the number of men present for duty equipped so small as your last report shows, the remainder of your command, after the 2,000 have left, will be ineffectual and useless for active operations. Please inform me of the whereabouts of all the detachments in your last monthly report, and also where Means' battalion is, and whether you have made arrangements to forward them.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *April* 12, 1864.

Col. R. F. TAYLOR,
*Commanding First Brigade:*

COLONEL: Pursuant to orders just received from the major-general commanding the department, the brigadier-general commanding directs that you send 100 cavalry on the cars to Sir John's Run at once, to thoroughly scout the country between Sleepy Creek and Great Cacapon. They will then remain at Bath until further orders, keeping communication with the infantry at Sir John's Run and Hancock. At Bath they will be careful and not disturb the property of the Union citizens.

The brigadier-general commanding desires that you send some portion of your force not included in the detail of 1,000 heretofore made. Perhaps the Sixth Michigan will be able to furnish the detail. You will inform Mr. Darby, the railroad agent, when the detail is ready to embark on the cars.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* [12], 1864.

Col. JOSEPH THOBURN,
*Commanding at Webster:*

COLONEL: As soon as a regiment arrives at Webster you will please take a memorandum of its officers and men present, and after the most necessary preparations start it for Beverly. Every regiment must be provided with 20 picks, 20 spades, and 40 axes. The soldiers will only be allowed one suit of clothes. They will take their overcoats, blankets, shelter-tents, one extra pair of shoes, and their knapsack, with one suit of underclothing. They will carry two days' cooked rations in their haversacks and three days' short rations in their knapsacks. They will also have 40 rounds ammunition in their cartridge-boxes and 20 in their knapsacks, *i. e.*, 60 per man. The following transportation will be allowed: One wagon to field and staff, one to line officers, one to each 100 men. It is necessary that the instructions from the chief quartermaster of this department are strictly complied with and that there will be no interference in regard to his arrangements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, April* 12, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

You will receive instructions to-day from Lieutenant-General Grant in respect to the French vessels mentioned in your telegram received last night and referred to General Grant.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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NEW YORK, *April* 12, 1864.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Hon. F. W. SEWARD,
*Assistant Secretary of State:*

I have telegraphed General Butler, at Fort Monroe, to say to French officers that I authorize and request delay for consultation by me with Mr. Geoffrey to-morrow about tobacco. Tell Mr. Geoffrey this or not, as you find expedient. I shall see him to-morrow.

WM. H. SEWARD,
*Secretary of State.*

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WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 12, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

Your dispatch of the 11th instant to the Secretary of War in relation to the shipment of tobacco by the French Government has been referred to me for my orders. The agreement made by the Secretary of State (copy of which you have) will have to be carried out. But

make no agreement to extend the time for so doing beyond the 23d instant, at which time the agreement expires by limitation, unless directed to do so by the President or Secretary of War.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 12, 1864.
(Received 6.30 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Commanding U. S. Army:*

Don't think me importunate, but for the good of the service can you not send me Brig. Gen. J. H. Wilson, now of the Cavalry Bureau, as chief of cavalry, to lead our expedition?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 12, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

General Burnham is ordered to report to you. General Brooks will be there also. Williams has not the rank for the command you suggest. It will be impracticable to give you either Neill or Hazen. If possible to give you a cavalry commander I will accommodate you.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
[*April* 12, 1864.]

Instructions to Brig. Gen. C. K. Graham:

First. Six hundred to be concentrated as soon as possible (to be unseen by the enemy) to the Nansemond to-morrow, to march at 12 midnight to the Holloway's Point ferry, cross the river, and march to the first road leading to the right. At this point 200 remain with pickets thrown out in all directions till daylight. The remaining 400 march slowly and cautiously on, to arrive at Cherry Grove on the Chuckatuck before daylight, taking up a strong position near the boat landing, to cover the landing of other troops there, throwing pickets well to the front, and occupying all the houses to prevent information being taken to the enemy. On the arrival of General Graham at Cherry Grove the commanding officer will report to him for further orders. At daylight the first-mentioned 200 divides, 100 moving down to the point, making a close examination of the country between the Chuckatuck and Nansemond, arresting all males found and destroying all small boats. After this is done the party will return to the Nansemond and recross to their camp, if no further orders are received. The other 100 of this force will move down to the western branch by the first road to the left, examine the creek as far up as possible and remain on the creek until the navy cutters have passed up and back, when they will return to the crossing of the Nansemond and remain there until joined by the first 100.

Second. A force of 1,500 infantry and four pieces of artillery will report to you in Portsmouth at sunset to-night, of which you will

make the following disposition, viz: Seven hundred men and the artillery conveyed by army gun-boats will proceed up the Chuckatuck Creek, to land at Cherry Grove at or just before daylight, and will march as expeditiously as possible toward Smithfield, sending small scouting parties on the different roads to the right to thoroughly scour the country to the James River; 400 men, under cover of the army and navy gun-boats, will land in Burwell's Bay, capture the signal station at Day's Point, and march to Smithfield, which place they will hold during the day with pickets well thrown out. At 6 o'clock a. m. 400 men under convoy of an army gun-boat will enter Pagan Creek, proceed to Smithfield, land there and take up the march for Benn's Church, continuing on the road to Cherry Grove until they meet the force from Chuckatuck Creek, when they will return to Smithfield, where all the forces will be embarked and return to Portsmouth. Care must be taken that no collision takes place from the meeting of these forces on the Cherry Grove road, and that the transports remain in the Chuckatuck long enough to offer any assistance should the party be driven back to the creek. General Graham will use his discretion about taking the 400 men that march to Cherry Grove to Smithfield, or leave them to cover the transports in the creek, and send the detachment back from Chuckatuck. The quartermaster will provide the transportation. A navy gun-boat will be stationed in the Nansemond, and also one near the mouth of Pagan Creek and two in Burwell's Bay to cover the landings and remain till the expedition is over. General Graham will understand the object of the expedition is to capture all small parties of rebel soldiery, all guerrillas, the destruction of all the boats found in the waters that are examined, and the capture of all property that may be valuable to the United States Government.

By command of Major-General Butler:

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Fort Monroe, Va., April* 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN,
*Near Portsmouth, Va.:*

You had better have your troops move on Suffolk early in the morning. Admiral Lee has been requested to send gun-boat up Nansemond to co-operate with you at daylight in the morning.

J. W. SHAFFER.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 10. } *In Field, Culpeper C. H., Va., April* 13, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. J. H. Wilson, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person without delay to Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac, for duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
*Camp near Brandy Station, Va., April* 13, 1864.

General SETH WILLIAMS,
*Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to submit a memorandum, for the consideration of the general commanding, on the subject of land transportation, in order to bring about a further modification of orders No. 100, of last November, the 5th.*

In the memorandum I have assumed that each infantry corps has 33,000 men and the cavalry 15,000. The proposed supply trains are based on that assumption. I have supposed that about eight and one-half wagons to every 1,000 men will carry ten days' subsistence of short rations and ten days' grain for the team animals.

If 100 rounds of small-arm ammunition per man must be carried in wagons it will require five for every 1,000 men. The wagons for this purpose and for carrying the additional three days' subsistence can be obtained by restricting each regiment of infantry and cavalry to two wagons for baggage, mess stores, &c. The batteries then should be limited to one for same purposes.

The Cavalry Corps has not the means at present of transporting more than two days' supply of forage for the horses on a campaign. It is the intention to load the depot train with forage, medical stores, &c., for use on the march. I would recommend that the wagons now on hand be assigned as indicated in the memorandum. No additional ones need be asked for.

I would also recommend that for a short campaign no extra clothing or overcoats be carried by the men on their persons; that they carry blankets, five days' rations in the knapsack and three in the haversack. Some extra shoes, underclothing, and overcoats should be carried in the trains. All other property not immediately needed should be sent to the rear.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
RUFUS INGALLS,
*Brig. Gen., Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.*

NOTE.—Some of the troops in this army have unauthorized camp equipage; many of the cavalry, for instance, have Sibley tents. I would request that they be ordered to comply promptly with General Orders, No. 100, of November 5, 1863.

R. INGALLS,
*Brig. Gen., Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 14, 1864.

I will have a conversation with the lieutenant-general commanding before modifying existing orders, as above recommended. The orders to turn in superfluous and unauthorized camp equipage have been issued.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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*See Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 420.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
*Camp near Brandy Station, Va., April* 13, 1864.

Memoranda for General Meade:

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 infantry corps, 33,000 men each | 99,000 |
| 1 cavalry corps, 15,000 men | 15,000 |
| Artillery, with corps and in reserve | 6,000 |
| Aggregate of officers and men present | 120,000 |

*Allowance of wagons.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 corps headquarters: | |
| 2 wagons each for baggage, mess stores, &c | 8 |
| 3 wagons each for subsistence, forage, &c | 12 |
| 14 division headquarters: | |
| 1 wagon each for baggage, mess stores, &c. | 14 |
| 2 wagons each for subsistence, forage, &c | 28 |
| 1 wagon each for armorers' tools | 14 |
| Artillery Reserve: | |
| 1 wagon for baggage, mess stores, &c | 1 |
| 2 wagons for subsistence, forage, &c | 2 |
| 39 infantry and cavalry brigades: | |
| 1 wagon each for baggage, stores, &c | 39 |
| 1 wagon each for subsistence, forage, &c | 39 |
| 1 wagon each for sales to officers | 39 |
| 7 brigades of artillery: | |
| 1 wagon each for baggage, mess stores, &c | 7 |
| 1 wagon each for subsistence, forage, &c | 7 |
| 1 wagon each for sales to officers | 7 |
| 3 infantry corps, for intrenching tools, 6 wagons each | 18 |
| 182 regiments infantry, 2 wagons each for baggage, mess stores, &c., for field, staff, and line officers | 364 |
| 33 regiments cavalry, same as above | 66 |
| Each corps of infantry, for a supply train to carry ten days' subsistence for the officers and men of the corps and 10 days' forage (ten pounds of grain per day to each animal) for the team animals, 280 wagons | 840 |
| The cavalry corps, for a supply train to carry ten days' subsistence for the officers and men of the corps and ten days' forage (10 pounds of grain per day to each animal) for team animals, 150 wagons | 150 |
| To each cavalry division a forage supply train for cavalry horses, of 50 wagons each | 150 |
| For every 1,000 men, infantry and cavalry, for carrying 100 rounds per man of small-arm ammunition, 5 wagons | 600 |
| 14 divisions infantry and cavalry, for forage for ambulance trains, 2 wagons each | 28 |
| To every 1,500 men for hospital supplies, 3 wagons | 240 |
| 30 six-gun batteries: | |
| For baggage, mess stores, &c., 1 wagon each | 30 |
| For subsistence, forage, &c., 4 wagons each | 120 |
| 8 four-gun batteries: | |
| For baggage, stores, &c., 1 wagon each | 8 |
| For subsistence, forage, &c., 3 wagons each | 24 |
| 6 six-gun horse batteries: | |
| For baggage, mess stores, &c., 1 wagon each | 6 |
| For subsistence, forage, &c., 4 wagons each | 24 |
| 6 four-gun horse batteries: | |
| For baggage, mess stores, &c., 1 wagon each | 6 |
| For subsistence, forage, &c., 4 wagons each | 24 |

*Ammunition.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 124 12-pounder guns, $124 \times 122 \div 112$ | 135 |
| 98 rifled guns, $98 \times 50 \div 140$ | 35 |
| 44 rifled guns, horse battery, $44 \times 100 \div 140$ | 31 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Fuses, primers, powder, &c | 2 |
| Six 20-pounders: | |
| For baggage, &c., 1 wagon each | 6 |
| For subsistence, forage, &c., 3 wagons each | 18 |
| For ammunition for same | 12 |
| For every 25 wagons, ammunition train, for forage, &c., 5 wagons, 255 wagons | 51 |
| Total number | 3,205 |

NOTE.—The supply trains of infantry are supposed to carry, each wagon, 1,800 pounds subsistence, equal to 1,200 short rations and 600 pounds grain; each wagon of cavalry supply train, 1,500 pounds subsistence and 600 pounds grain. The loads of all other wagons will exceed 2,000 pounds. This memoranda does not include the army headquarters, provost-marshal-general's department, Engineer Brigade, nor the repair depot, all of which now have about 434 wagons.

At these headquarters there are 110 wagons, twenty-five for officers' baggage, mess stores, office property, and papers (generally over 50 officers on duty here); twenty-five wagons for subsistence; the balance for forage to feed about 800 animals, and for extra clothing and quartermasters' stores generally.

The provost-marshal-general has a train of forty-seven wagons for baggage, subsistence, forage, &c. He has several regiments on duty with him, and frequently has many prisoners.

| | Wagons. |
|---|---|
| The Engineer Brigade has | 57 |
| The Engineer Battalion has | 20 |
| The Signal Corps has | 20 |
| The general repair depot | 180 |
| | 434 |

Those at the repair depot and part of those at these headquarters are loaded for general use on marches, mostly with forage.

My last report shows about 3,600 wagons on hand in the army. The infantry corps average now about 760 wagons each.

If existing orders be so modified as to allow five wagons to each 1,000 men for small-arm ammunition, eight and one-half for supply train for subsistence, and only two to each regiment for baggage, mess stores, &c., the means of transportation now on hand will answer to carry ten days' subsistence and forage in wagons.

In the Second Corps, for instance, one wagon is allowed to the field and staff and one to the line officers of each regiment for the purpose of transporting baggage, camp equipage, desks, papers, and mess stores. The balance of the regimental wagons are loaded with three days' rations of subsistence, quartermaster's stores, and forage, and the average weight of each load is from 2,800 to 3,000 pounds.

| | Pounds. |
|---|---|
| The gross weight of 1,000 marching rations, without meat, will be | 1,565½ |
| 1,500 rations, without meat, will be | 2,348 |
| 1,500 rations, with meat, two-sevenths pound | 358 |
| | 2,706 |

That is calculating pork for twice in seven days. The other meat will be driven on the hoof.

The following is the gross weight of 1,000 rations ·

| | Pounds. |
|---|---|
| 1,000 rations pork | 1,253 |
| 1,000 rations hard bread | 1,211 |
| 1,000 rations sugar | 161 |
| 1,000 rations coffee | 102 |
| 1,000 rations salt | 40½ |

It will be seen that a wagon can haul from 1,200 to 1,400 rations of provisions, without salt meat. It can also haul forage enough for its team for ten days.

Three wagons for a brigade of 1,500 men is ample to carry its hospital supplies. An increase of one wagon for every 500 men is too great ; I would suggest that four wagons be allowed for a brigade not less than 2,000 or exceeding 2,500 ; five wagons for 3,000 and not exceeding 4,000. A hospital tent complete only weighs 175 pounds ; one wagon can carry the hospital tents of an entire brigade, with its quota of forage ; two or three wagons should carry the balance of the supplies.

The ammunition, heavy and small-arm, is assigned on actual weight of over 2,000 pounds to each wagon.

Respectfully submitted.

RUFUS INGALLS.
*Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 14, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the lieutenant-general commanding.

The transportation of this army is a subject which has engaged my attention most particularly, and every effort made to reduce it to the minimum. It is believed a careful perusal of the within statement will satisfy the lieutenant-general that with the number of men now in the army no reduction is practicable, unless the amounts of ammunition, subsistence, forage, &c., are diminished. There are now twenty-five wagons carrying subsistence for contingencies with these headquarters ; also 180 for the quartermasters' repair depot, and possibly some of the provost-marshal-general's train that might be dispensed with, if deemed necessary.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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ANNAPOLIS, MD., *April* 13, 1864—10 a.m.
(Received 11 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. D. H. RUCKER,
*Chief Quartermaster :*

Be prepared to furnish a train of 500 wagons, equipped and organized, in addition to those now at Annapolis, lately sent to Captain Blodgett, which are, I understand, 150 in number. These wagons should be organized and held ready for issue on short notice.

M. C. MEIGS,
*Quartermaster-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, *April* 13, 1864.

General M. C. MEIGS,
*Quartermaster-General, Washington:*

Complaints are frequent again about scarcity of hay. Have not had over 4 pounds per day to each animal this month. Cavalry officers are complaining loudly.

RUFUS INGALLS,
*Brigadier-General, Chief Quartermaster, Army of Potomac.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 13, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 12 noon.)

Brig. Gen. D. H. RUCKER,
*Chief Quartermaster:*

Our medical director may call on you for a steamer of suitable draught and size to answer as hospital store-ship in case our operations should make it necessary on the York or James Rivers. There will be many other things required in that event. I propose to see you in person about the matter as soon as I can calculate more definitely than it is possible to do now. I shall send you by mail to-day a statement of what land transportation General Burnside's column will require.

RUFUS INGALLS,
*Brigadier-General, Chief Quartermaster, Army of Potomac.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. P. HOWE,
*Inspector-General Artillery, U. S. Army:*

GENERAL: In obedience to the instructions of the general commanding this army, Batteries B and M, First Connecticut Artillery (Brooker's and Pratt's), will report to you.

It is the desire of the general and of the lieutenant-general commanding the Armies of the United States that these batteries be refitted and held in readiness to rejoin this army, for which the necessary orders will be given when the batteries are required.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 13, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Captain NORTON,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

Working parties of the enemy are employed this morning making new intrenchments on the heights beyond Somerville Ford. A train at a halt is in sight 25 degrees west of south, about 7 miles distant from this point. It is headed toward our left; head of train is out of sight in the woods. Counted thirty wagons in sight; will watch for them. There is no change in the enemy's camp visible from this point.

TAYLOR,
*Signal Officer.*

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 13, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Enemy more active to-day. Have thrown up new redoubts. Are strengthening works opposite railroad bridge; also about drills.

FULLER.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 13, 1864.

Capt. E. B. PARSONS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

The bridge about 2 miles from Castle Mountain Mills is impassable. Jenkins' Ford, just below the bridge, is very deep and dangerous, especially at night. The ford at Castle Mills is impassable. Sycamore Ford, 2 miles above the mills, can be crossed with some difficulty. There would be no success in starting just now.

A. T. A. TORBERT,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY OUTPOST,
*Grove Church, April* 13, 1864.

Capt. L. G. ESTES,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Div., Cav. Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that we have this day charged into the old knot-hole of a town, Falmouth. The people on the other side of the river paid us their usual compliments. No damage done. We could learn of but 2 soldiers as having been over from the other side since last week; one of these we chased into the town. From the best information we can get to-day, there is but a small body of troops in Fredericksburg. Hampton is said to be at Hamilton's Crossing, but with no very large force. The result of work here thus far shows but a small force of the enemy on this side the river, hunting principally in couples, sometimes in gangs of six or a dozen, skulking about the pines in the day, sometimes at the houses of citizens at night, and never at the same place two nights in succession. Deserters from both armies, sometimes a citizen, and occasional scouts make up the material of this force. I learn that a small party of the Tenth New York Regiment were fired on by bushwhackers this afternoon between this and Morrisville; two of the villains have shown themselves in the vicinity of our camp to-day. We have hunted these fellows on horseback and on foot, in highways and byways, by day and by night, and while we hear various reports from citizens, our conclusion is that all the bushwhackers and scouts that are on this side the river are not worth the powder and shot that it is taking to blow them up. It is through these people that are drawing commissary stores that the principal information of importance to the enemy is communicated to scouts and through them to the people over the river. Quit issuing commissary stores to rebels; let the people here seek their supplies from their friends over the river, and the enemy's scouts in the rear of General Meade's army will become comparatively harmless.

Respectfully submitted.

R. F. JUDSON.
*Captain, Commanding Outpost.*

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 13, 1864—9.55 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my command during the past twenty-four hours. Reports of small parties of rebels having been heard from in the neighborhood of Dranesville, dismounted scouting party, consisting of 25 men, was sent out this p. m. from Vienna to search the country in that vicinity.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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ANNAPOLIS, *April* 13, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 10.50 a. m.)

Major-General SIGEL, *Cumberland, Md.:*

Your dispatch of yesterday is received, and is satisfactory. A movement up the Shenandoah Valley, if necessary to make it, will not require much more than an escort for the wagon train. I have directed a regiment of heavy artillery to be sent to you from Baltimore, which I do not see enters into your calculation of forces. In addition to this I may in case of an urgent necessity be able to send you, say, four more regiments of infantry from Washington, when the time for moving arrives.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 13, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 3 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Commanding Armies, Annapolis:*

Your dispatch of to-day is received. The arrival of the regiment of heavy artillery at Harper's Ferry was reported to me yesterday.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN, *Webster:*

The general commanding has received your telegrams in regard to transportation and the condition of the camping-ground at Webster; also a letter addressed to Major-General Ord, in regard to organization of your division. He directs me to say that he will speak to the chief quartermaster, and give him the necessary directions in what relates to the transportation you mention, and if you find it better for the troops, you may immediately order three or four regiments to Grafton or Clarksburg, but they must march there and cannot be transported by railroad. This would hardly be worth while for them to do under the present circumstances. He also informs you that the organization of your division has been ordered by special order, which will probably be in your hands now. If you wish this order modified, you may express your wishes and it will be done, if advisable.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *April* 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Webster:*

Until Major-General Ord assumes command please send returns and other communications to these headquarters.

By order of General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 13, 1864.

Colonel MULLIGAN,
*Commanding New Creek, W. Va.:*

Direct Lieutenant-Colonel Quirk to fall back to Burlington if he can, or toward New Creek if he cannot join the forces at Burlington at the right time. Order the commander at Burlington to send out as strong detachments as he can toward Petersburg and Moorefield immediately. Report again every information you may be able to receive, and send out some of your staff officers toward or to Burlington and Greenland Gap to obtain correct information.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, April* 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER:

Have the One hundred and twenty-third and the One hundred and sixteenth Ohio Regiments, stationed from Monocacy to Sleepy Creek, relieved by the First and Second Maryland Eastern Shore Regiments. Assemble the Thirty-fourth Massachusetts, the One hundred and twenty-third Ohio, the Eighteenth Connecticut, and One hundred and sixteenth Ohio on Bolivar Heights. As soon as communication is established between Bolivar Heights and Maryland Heights, if the regiments of heavy artillery can protect the railroad from Monocacy to Sleepy Creek, or from Monocacy to Harper's Ferry, you may order them to do so, and give the Second Regiment, or one of them, a change for a few days to organize better, but the Ohio regiments must be relieved within the next two days. Colonel Rodgers, commanding the Second Maryland Regiment, is on leave of absence in Baltimore; will return on the 18th. He can assist you very much.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., *April* 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL,
*Martinsburg, W. Va.:*

There are two companies of cavalry claiming to be under my command at the Point of Rocks (which place belongs to my department), known as the Independent Virginia Rangers. It seems they are acting in accordance with their name, and I therefore sent for the provost-marshal of that place to confer with him about them. From

him I learn that they belong to your division. Have received orders to join you and refuse to obey. Their conduct is such that matters cannot longer remain as they are now, but I wish to do nothing without your advice and consent. Will you send me your views and wishes in the matter by telegraph?

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *April* 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER:

Your dispatch received. The cavalry at Point of Rocks, known as Means' battalion, have been ordered by the department commander to Parkersburg. As soon as the bridge is repaired at Harper's Ferry, they will go, I presume, by railroad. I suppose it will be my duty to see that they obey the order as it was given through me. I shall be obliged if you will take any measures that may be necessary to restrain any independence of action on the part of the battalion which is in any way prejudicial to the service, as they are just now out of my reach.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 13, 1864.
(Received Cumberland, 3.35.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

I have the honor to report that 500 of my men start this morning westward via railroad. Means' battalion cannot come across the Potomac now, and owing to the partial destruction of the bridge at Harper's Ferry, measures have been taken to forward it to its destination.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *April* 13, 1864.

Col. J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Commanding Second Brigade:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you proceed with 415 men of your brigade, mounted and equipped as specified in Special Orders, No. 22, from these headquarters, via railroad, to Clarksburg, W. Va., embarking the horses and men upon the cars at as early an hour as practicable to-morrow. Upon arriving at Clarksburg you will have the command unloaded as promptly as possible and join the 500 men already at that place, assuming command of the whole, and keeping the command in the best possible condition for very hard service. Should you receive any orders from any source other than these headquarters, you will please report the same at once by telegraph. Report your arrival at Clarksburg by telegraph.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 13, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General CROOK,
*Charleston, W. Va.:*

The following dispatch is just received from Washington:

The Eighth Ohio Cavalry is at Columbus, Ohio. By special order from this office of the 7th instant it was ordered to be mounted and equipped as rapidly as possible, and ordered to Department of West Virginia.

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

I will telegraph to General Heintzelman about it.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

FORT MONROE, *April* 13, 1864.
(Received 6.25 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

I have need of a large guard for provost and other duties at Norfolk. I desire all able-bodied men I have in the field. Can you send me a battalion or regiment of the Veteran Reserve or Invalid Corps for the purpose of such provost-guard duties?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

FORT MONROE, *April* 13, 1864.
(Received 6.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Special order received requiring the sending of 200 unassigned men of the Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery to the Sixth New York Heavy Artillery, Army of the Potomac. Colonel Morrison, commanding, reports that when those ordered to be discharged become unfit for service and transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, and those who have voluntarily enlisted to fill up other New York regiments in this department are taken from his regiment, there will be none left. I can send 443, not a man of whom is fit for duty, and never was since they were enlisted in the regiment. I await instructions, but we have no unassigned recruits of that regiment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 146. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, April* 13, 1864.

* * * * * * *

52. Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, U. S. Volunteers, ordered to report to Major-General Butler March 31, 1864, is assigned to duty as of that date under the orders of General Butler.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *April* 13, 1864.
(Received 11 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Commanding Armies of the United States:*

I have no objections to General Rucker; believe him to be a good officer, but for our expedition would prefer General Wilson, a younger man. I have no cavalry officer. It is of the last importance that I have one at once.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 13, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

I can send you Colonel Kautz to command your cavalry division. He is a good cavalry officer. Do you want him sent?

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
*Chief of Staff, Culpeper:*

General Wilson having been directed to report to me, I am very much embarrassed in his assignment to the Third Cavalry Division of the Cavalry Corps, as General Kilpatrick, commanding that division, ranks him. General Kilpatrick is anxious to be transferred to the West; is it possible to do so?

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, EXECUTIVE DEPT.,
*Wheeling, April* 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Commanding Dept. of West Virginia, Cumberland, Md.:*

SIR: When I met you on the cars a few days since, I said to you that I thought I could be prepared in a week to guard the railroad from the Maryland line in the mountains west to Parkersburg for the time you desired, viz, not exceeding a month. It was my intention to send out my adjutant-general to organize the companies for the purposes mentioned, but on my return here I found that his business was such as imperatively demands his attention here for the present, so that I will not be able to organize the railroad guard as soon as contemplated. I will make an effort as soon as possible, and inform you.

Very respectfully,

A. I. BOREMAN.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 14, 1864.

I. Officers and soldiers serving in this department, and civilians within its limits, corresponding with newspapers, magazines, or other publications, are strictly prohibited from communicating any information relative to the position, number, movements, and operations of the troops which can be of advantage to the enemy.

The general commanding cannot understand how any officer or soldier or any loyal civilian can be so inconsiderate as to unveil that secrecy upon which our success so largely depends. Sufficient material for interesting correspondence can be found in the details of skirmishes, engagements, and battles, without exposing that which the enemy most desires to learn.

When the number, the position, or the movements of either large or small bodies of troops become generally known there is great danger of disastrous consequences ensuing to the army and the country, and hence any one, whether in military or civil life, making public such information affords the most effectual aid to the enemy, and deserves to be treated as disloyal.

Officers and soldiers giving such information, either in conversation or in correspondence, will be immediately placed in arrest and tried by court-martial. Civilians within the limits of the department who furnish such unlawful information, as well as those who publish it, will be regarded as enemies to the Government, and will be arrested by the military authorities and tried by a military commission.

Commanding officers are directed to exclude from further circulation in their commands newspapers or other publications which shall, after the promulgation of this order, contain any statement herein prohibited.

II. No orders, general or special, relating to the organization, the movements, or the position of troops will be printed by commanding officers within this department unless under instructions or authority received from these headquarters. In ordinary cases the number of copies actually necessary will be made in writing and promulgated. Care should be exercised regarding the distribution and safe-keeping of all important orders and other official documents.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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APRIL 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of men, horses, arms, and equipments left behind after the departure of a detail of 1,972 mounted men. This is made from the data obtained from an actual enumeration by inspection officers yesterday. The number of men left will be increased by 457 if only 1,515 men are taken.

| Command. | Men left. | Mounted. | Dismounted. | Total. | Unserviceable horses. | Sabers. | Carbines. | Pistols. | Unarmed. | Equipments. | Men in hospitals. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Second Brigade ..... | 698 | 200 | 498 | 698 | 45 | 319 | ..... | ..... | 379 | 245 | 40 |
| First Brigade..... | 1,027 | 571 | 456 | 1,027 | 372 | 723 | 666 | 186 | ..... | 772 | 12 |
| Sixth West Virginia... | 575 | 199 | 376 | 575 | ..... | ..... | 314 | 73 | 218 | ..... | 10 |
| Total. ..... ..... | 2,300 | 970 | 1,330 | 2,300 | 417 | 1,042 | 980 | 259 | 597 | 1,017 | 68 |

Very respectfully,

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 14, 1864.
(Received 5.30 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

Is it desired that Ewing's battery shall be sent westward? Please answer at once; also which road is better for artillery, from Clarksburg or from Webster.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY, DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 14, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Major-General Sigel for the information within asked for.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 14, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Major-General Stahel, with information that it was originally intended to send Captain Ewing's battery westward, but this has been changed so as to allow Captain Keeper's battery to accompany the expedition, especially as he is fully equipped. Captain Ewing's battery will therefore remain for the present in the eastern end of the department.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 14, 1864—2.25 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
*Annapolis, Md.:*

I find the great majority of troops being drawn from the Northern States, by the system of inspection established, are men who belong to different regiments already in the field. The number therefore to be attached to your corps will be less than I calculated.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 11. } *Culpeper Court-House, Va., April* 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Hiram Burnham, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person, without delay, to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, for orders.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 14, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe:*

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that about one-half of the railroad iron at Norfolk be removed to Alexandria. It is reported that there is enough at Norfolk to lay about 26 miles of track. The Quartermaster's Department will send for it as it is wanted.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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FORTRESS MONROE, VA.,
*April* 14, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Colonel Kautz is a most excellent officer, but all my cavalry colonels rank him. No officer ordered here has as yet reported.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. 18TH ARMY CORPS, DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
*Fort Monroe, April* 14, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Commanding U. S. Armies:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose official copies of the correspondence between General Pickett, commanding Confederate forces, District of North Carolina, and General Peck, commanding U. S. forces in said district, relative to the execution of certain prisoners belonging to the Second North Carolina Regiment. Many of these men were conscripted by the rebels. All of them were citizens of the United States, who owed their allegiance to our Government; if misguided, they forfeited their allegiance, repented, and returned to it again. They have only done their duty, and, in my judgment, are to be protected in so doing. I do not recognize any right in the rebels to execute a United States soldier because either by force or fraud, or by voluntary enlistment even, he has been once brought into their ranks and has escaped therefrom. I suppose all the rights they can claim as belligerents is to execute one of the deserters from their army while he holds simply the character of a deserter during the time he has renounced his allegiance, and before he has again claimed that protection and it has been accorded to him. Therefore by no law of nations and by no belligerent rights have the rebels any power over him other than to treat him as a prisoner of war if captured.

I would suggest that the Confederate authorities be called upon to say whether they adopt this act, and that upon their answer such action may be taken as will sustain the dignity of the Government, and give a promise to afford protection to its citizens.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 11, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT,
*Dept. of Va. and N. C., Confederate Army, Petersburg:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a slip cut from the Richmond Examiner of February 8, 1864. It is styled "The advance on New Berne," and appears to have been extracted from the Petersburg Register, a paper published in the city where your headquarters are located.

Your attention is particularly invited to that paragraph which states "that Colonel Shaw was shot dead by a negro soldier from the other side of the river which he was spanning with a pontoon bridge, and that the negro was watched and followed, taken, and hanged after the action at Thomasville."

THE ADVANCE ON NEW BERNE.

The Petersburg Register gives the following additional particulars of the advance on New Berne. Our army, according to the report of passengers arriving from Weldon, has fallen back to a point 16 miles west of New Berne.

The reason assigned for this retrograde movement was that New Berne could not be taken by us without a loss on our part which would find no equivalent in its capture, as the place was stronger than we anticipated. Yet in spite of all this, we are sure the expedition will result in good to our cause. Our forces are now in a situation to get large supplies from a country still abundant; to prevent raids on points westward, and keep tories in check and hang them when caught.

From a private, who was one of the guard that brought the batch of prisoners through, we learn that Colonel Shaw was shot dead by a negro soldier from the other side of the river which he was spanning with a pontoon bridge. The negro was watched, followed, taken, and hanged after the action at Thomasville. It is stated that when our troops entered Thomasville a number of the enemy took shelter in the houses and fired upon them. The Yankees were ordered to surrender but refused, whereupon our men set fire to the houses, and their occupants got bodily a taste in this world of the flames eternal.

The Government of the United States has wisely seen fit to enlist many thousand colored soldiers to aid in putting down the revolution, and has placed them on the same footing in all respects to her white troops. The orders of the President on that subject are so just, full, and clear, that I inclose a copy for your information:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 252. WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Washington, July* 31, 1863.

The following order of the President is published for the information and government of all concerned:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION,
"*Washington, D. C., July* 30, 1863.

"It is the duty of every government to give protection to its citizens of whatever class, color, or condition, and especially to those who are duly organized as soldiers in the public service. The law of nations and the usages and customs of war as

carried on by civilized powers permit no distinction as to color in the treatment of prisoners of war as public enemies. To sell or enslave any captured person on account of his color, and for no offense against the laws of war, is a relapse into barbarism and a crime against the civilization of the age.

"The Government of the United States will give the same protection to all its soldiers; and if the enemy shall sell or enslave any one because of his color, the offense shall be punished by retaliation upon the enemy's prisoners in our possession.

"It is therefore ordered, that for every soldier of the United States killed in violation of the laws of war a rebel soldier shall be executed; and for every one enslaved by the enemy, or sold into slavery, a rebel soldier shall be placed at hard labor on the public works and continued at such labor until the other shall be released and receive the treatment due to a prisoner of war.

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN."

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Believing that this atrocity has been perpetrated without your knowledge, and that you will take prompt steps to disavow this violation of the usages of war and to bring the offenders to justice, I shall refrain from executing a rebel soldier until I learn your action in the premises.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February* 13, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT,
*Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina, Confederate Army:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a list of 53 soldiers of the U. S. Government who are supposed to have fallen into your hands on your late hasty retreat from before New Berne. They are loyal and true North Carolinians and duly enlisted in the Second North Carolina Infantry. I ask for them the same treatment in all respects as you will mete out to other prisoners of war.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Petersburg, Va., February* 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK, U. S. Army,
*Commanding at New Berne:*

GENERAL: Your communication of the 11th of February is received. I have the honor to state in reply that the paragraph from a newspaper inclosed therein is not only without foundation in fact but so ridiculous that I should scarcely have supposed it worthy of consideration; but I would respectfully inform you that had I caught any negro who had killed officer, soldier, or citizen of the Confederate States I should have caused him to be immediately executed.

To your threat expressed in the following extract from your communication, viz: "Believing that this atrocity has been perpetrated without your knowledge, and that you will take prompt steps to dis-

avow this violation of the usages of war and to bring the offenders to justice, I shall refrain from executing a rebel soldier until I learn your action in the premises," I have merely to say that I have in my hands and subject to my orders, captured in the recent operations in this department, some 450 officers and men of the U. S. Army, and for every man you hang I will hang 10 of the U. S. Army.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 4.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Petersburg, Va., February 17, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Commanding U. S. Forces, New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Your communication of the 13th instant is at hand. I have the honor to state in reply that you have made a slight mistake in regard to numbers, 325 having "fallen into your (our) hands in your (our) late hasty retreat from before New Berne," instead of the list of 53 with which you have so kindly furnished me, and which will enable me to bring to justice many who have up to this time escaped their just deserts. I herewith return you the names of those who have been tried and convicted by court-martial for desertion from the Confederate service and taken with arms in hand, "duly enlisted in the Second North Carolina Infantry, U. S. Army." They have been duly executed according to law and the custom of war.

Your letter and list will, of course, prevent any mercy being shown any of the remaining number, should proper and just proof be brought of their having deserted the Confederate colors, many of these men pleading in extenuation that they have been forced into the ranks of the Federal Government.

Extending to you my thanks for your opportune list,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Sub-inclosure.]

List of prisoners captured before New Berne and executed at Kinston, N. C., as deserters from the Confederate Army: David Jones, J. L. Haskett, John L. Stanly, Lewis Bryan, Mitchell Busick, William Irving, Amos Armyette, John J. Beck, William Haddick, Jesse Summerlin, Andrew J. Britteau, William Jones, Lewis Freeman, Calvin Hoffman, Stephen Jones, Joseph Biock, Lewis Taylor, Charles Cuthrell, William H. Daughtry, John Freeman, Elijah Kellum, William J. Hill.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 20, 1864.*

Major-General PICKETT,
*Confederate Army, Petersburg:*

GENERAL: Soon after your retreat from New Berne I had the honor to address you respecting 53 loyal North Carolinians who had

fallen into your hands; they having been duly enlisted into the Second North Carolina Regiment, I asked for them the treatment of prisoners of war.

Your attention is called to the inclosed slip, cut from the Fayetteville Observer of February 8, 1864, setting forth that some of the prisoners taken near New Berne have been executed, which I hope will prove to be unfounded:

TRAITORS EXECUTED.

Among the prisoners captured by our forces near New Berne were several deserters from our army. We learn by an officer just from the spot that two of these have already been executed and others are undergoing trial.

Having reported this matter to higher authority, I am instructed to notify you that if the members of the North Carolina regiment who have been captured are not treated as prisoners of war the strictest retaliation will be enforced. Two colonels, 2 lieutenant-colonels, 2 majors, and 2 captains are held at Fort Monroe as hostages for their safety. These officers have not been placed in close custody because the authorities do not believe that any harm is intended by you to the members of the Second North Carolina Regiment.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 6.]

HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., February 27,* 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT,
*Department of North Carolina, Confederate Army:*

GENERAL: February 13 I had the honor to address you in respect to 53 North Carolinians who had fallen into your hands in your late operations about New Berne. As they were truly loyal men who had duly enlisted in the U. S. Army, I requested the same treatment of them as should be meted out to other prisoners of war. No allusion was made to the question of your right to place these men upon any other footing or to the matter of retaliation.

In your reply of the 17th you inclosed a list of 22 who have been executed at Kinston, and express the determination to punish the balance if proof is found of their desertion from your service.

These men, in common with more than half of the population of the State, were ever loyal to the United States and opposed secession until put down by arbitrary power. A merciless conscription drove them into the service, and for a time compelled the suspense of their real sentiments but was powerless to destroy their love for the Federal Union. With tens of thousands they seized the first opportunity to rush within my lines and resume their former allegiance. Had these men been traitors to the United States at the outburst of the rebellion their claims upon it for protection and sympathy under the circumstances would not have been strong, but in view of their unswerving and unflagging loyalty I cannot doubt that the Government will take immediate steps to redress these outrages upon humanity and to correct such gross violations of usages of civilized warfare. In any event my duty has been performed, and the blood of these unfortunates will rest upon you and your associates.

In your communication of the 16th you threaten to execute 10 of the officers and soldiers of the U. S. Army for every one of your men, prisoners in my hands, which I shall execute under the orders of the President of the United States, which I inclosed for your information. This announcement, taken in connection with the execution of the North Carolinians and similar proceedings elsewhere, evinces a most extraordinary thirst for life and blood on the part of the Confederate authorities. Such violent and revengeful acts, resorted to as a show of strength, are the best evidences of the weak and crumbling condition of the Confederacy.

This wicked rebellion has now attained that desperate state which history shows is always the shortest of revolutionary stages. The friends of the Union everywhere truly interpret these signs of madness and recklessness, and are now making one grand rally for the utter overthrow and final extinction of all treason.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 14, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

MAJOR: In accordance with instructions from the commanding general of the department, I have the honor to submit the following report upon the condition of the recruiting service in North Carolina for both white and colored troops:

It appears from the reports of the several sub-district commanders that there are recruiting stations in this district for the following regiments and partial organizations, each keeping up several rendezvous in New Berne, Washington, Plymouth, Beaufort, and Morehead City: Second North Carolina Union Volunteers (white); First North Carolina Union Volunteers (white); regiment of colored infantry, which Lieut. Col. George W. Tew, Fifth Rhode Island Artillery, has authority to raise; battalion of heavy artillery (colored), which Maj. T. C. Jameson, Fifth Rhode Island Artillery, has authority to raise; First North Carolina Cavalry (white), which Capt. Andrew Stewart, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, has authority to raise; Second U. S. Colored Cavalry; Third U. S. Colored Cavalry; Tenth U. S. Colored Infantry; Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Infantry; Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Infantr .

Each of these organizations has sent a number of officers and men to conduct the recruiting operations in this district. Many of them are here without proper authority, and there seems to be a great lack of organization and unity of action.

Some of the officers engaged have done well, and proved themselves very energetic and efficient, while others have evinced no very remarkable traits except utter incapacity and general uselessness, both as regards recruiting and care of troops. As a general thing, too large detachments are sent upon this duty. The result is that they become mere idlers, with no other object in view than to draw pay and consume rations. Some of these officers, zealous without knowledge, perhaps, seem to labor to enlist all the men they can pos-

sibly persuade, without the slightest regard to their capacity, either mental or physical, while others labor to labor as little as possible.

The great difficulty appears to me to be the lack of system and direct responsibilty. Could some means be devised by which these officers could be properly instructed in their duties and a careful watch set upon their actions, that the inefficient might be weeded out from the worthy, the interests of the service would be greatly advanced. As it now is they seem to be responsible to no one in particular; public property is drawn and not accounted for; valuable time is consumed to no great purpose, and disorder reigns.

There are some points that demand special attention, and one is, virtual impressment and fraudulent enlistment. It has been reported that some officers, availing themselves of the limited knowledge of some of the North Carolinians, have so worked upon their fears by threats of deeds of violence, which they had not the power to execute, as to compel men to enlist who preferred not to. In other cases (and it is especially true in the enlistments for the colored cavalry) mere boys, children, some of them weak, puny, scrofulous, have been enlisted, passed by the surgeon, and mustered in by the mustering officer. And again, old men, eaten by disease or utterly incapacitated by old age and general infirmity, have been enlisted, fed, and clothed until rejected by the surgeon or mustering officer or passed and accepted into the service as able-bodied soldiers.

Numerous instances have occurred of interference with the regularly employed "mechanics and skilled laborers" of the quartermaster's department, thereby causing serious inconvenience to that department. Officers, soldiers, and in one case a white employé of the department referred to, have tampered with these men, and by extravagant promises induced them to leave the sphere in which their services were so much needed to enlist in colored regiments.

Another inconvenience experienced is that of providing these recruits with clothing. The supply on hand in North Carolina is only provided for the regular force here, and this heavy draft upon it not only deranges the provisions made for proper supply of this army, but also throws personal responsibility upon the officers who order the issues. I am convinced that some of the clothing drawn is lost to the service, from the fact that the moment a recruiting officer finds a colored man who will consent to enlist, he immediately puts upon him the uniform of the army before the man has been examined by the surgeon. If rejected, this man with his soiled clothing is permitted to depart, and the suit is lost, and, as previously stated, as many of these officers make no returns of the public property intrusted to them, the consequence is the responsibility reverts upon the officer who took the responsibility for the benefit of the service of placing this property in the recruiting officer's hands.

I inclose herewith reports* from the several sub-district commanders of North Carolina, showing the state of things more in detail.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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* Not found.

APRIL 14, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN,
*Commanding Outposts:*

General Peck has information which induces him to believe that an attack on Plymouth may be expected hourly, and that this will be accompanied by a demonstration on New Berne. I know that it is only necessary to say this to you to keep you all on the alert in your command.

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

General Wilson has not yet been placed on duty, and no change has occurred. I will notify you when it occurs.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 15, 1864.

General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

General Grant has not returned: will be back this p. m. General Rawlins says no doubt he will make the order we wish. Suppose you make my order and send it over.

J. H. WILSON,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 15, 1864.

Capt. C. MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in furtherance of instructions received from the division headquarters I ordered Major Anderson, Seventeenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with a detachment of 200 men from this brigade, to proceed toward Castleton Mountain, and, dividing his force before crossing Hazel River, to surround the mountain by the roads which skirt its base and endeavor to capture a detachment of rebel cavalry said to be stationed there. I at the same time ordered Lieutenant Cating, of my staff, to proceed with 100 men of the Eighth New York (of First Brigade) to Lebanon Church, on the Sperryville pike, near Woodville, thence by a road bearing north and east toward Castleton Mountain, and then endeavor to effect a junction with the column under Major Anderson. It was expected that Lieutenant Cating's party would intercept any of the enemy who might be retiring before Major Anderson's advance. This party succeeded in capturing 1 private of Sixth Virginia and 1 of Forty-ninth Virginia and 2 horses, besides arresting a citizen under suspicious circumstances. The several detachments

left camp at about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 14th instant. Their dispositions were so well made and the movements so well timed that all three of the parties met at the foot of the mountain at daylight, although coming from opposite directions. Major Anderson ascended the mountain without finding any enemy. He afterward went to Woodville, returning by the Sperryville pike. The party of Eighth New York returned by the Mud pike. It will be seen by the foregoing details that the country was thoroughly scoured, and had any party of the enemy been in the neighborhood they could not have escaped observation. I have the honor to inclose report* of Major Anderson. I would also state, in addition, that Major Anderson reports that the country in vicinity of Culpeper cannot be observed from Castleton Mountain. The most extended view from that point is to the west and north of west.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS C. DEVIN,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 15, 1864.

Capt. CARSWELL MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division:*

CAPTAIN: I would respectfully report, for the information of the general commanding, some additional information obtained during the late reconnaissance by Major Anderson:

It was currently reported in the neighborhood of Woodville, and also at Castleton Mountain, that Dunkin's troop was ordered to rendezvous at Criglersville on yesterday, and that he passed through Woodville on the 14th for that purpose. It was also reported that all conscripts in that section were to rendezvous at Criglersville. In addition, Major Anderson found a notice posted on a blacksmith shop directing all conscripts to rendezvous at Criglersville on yesterday, 14th instant. If a demonstration were made on the left to and beyond James City, I think I could send 200 men to Criglersville with a reasonable prospect of effecting something. The distance is 25 miles, and a party leaving here at dark could make it by daylight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS C. DEVIN,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 15, 1864—5 p. m.

Capt. N. B. SWEITZER,
*First U. S. Cavalry:*

The squadron of the First Cavalry here will rejoin the regiment as soon as relieved by a squadron of the First Massachusetts Cavalry, now daily expected. Hope you are well again.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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*Not found.

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 15, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR:

I have the honor to report all quiet during the past twenty-four hours. The scouting party sent out under the command of Major Forbes returned at noon to-day, bringing with them 1 corporal and 5 privates prisoners, of Mosby's battalion. They belonged to the party which came down with Mosby last night and whose intention was undoubtedly to destroy bridges, from the fact that one of the party taken had a canteen of turpentine on his person.

A. H. GRIMSHAW,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April* 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Commanding Department of West Virginia:*

I send with this Lieutenant-Colonel Babcock, of my staff, to consult with you in person in reference to the preparations for the approaching campaign. I will state that the instructions which I communicated to you were based upon such information as is given by the maps, and as could be obtained by inquiries from those who had previously been over the country.

The point to be attained was marked in my instructions; that is, in the spring campaign it is desirable to bring into the field all the troops possible.

From the extended line you have to guard no troops can be taken from you except to act directly from your line toward the enemy. In this way you must occupy the attention of a large force, and thereby hold them from re-enforcing elsewhere, or must inflict a blow upon the enemy's resources, which will materially aid us. This being the object, it is not necessary that the exact line marked out by me should be followed. It was selected with the view of keeping your present line covered. If this can be equally well done by starting from Gauley Bridge, I have no objections to that route.

The concentration preparatory to starting should go forward with all expedition, so that the two columns sent by you can be started by the 23d instant, if called on to do so. I will give the signal from here for starting from Beverly or Gauley, as the case may be. It is now pretty certain that the enemy, suspecting a move up the Shenandoah Valley, have established a considerable force at Staunton to meet you. This may be, however, a cover for a formidable movement of the enemy by that route northward. This you will want to watch closely, and report any information you may obtain.

Confer freely with Colonel Babcock, and whilst he remains with you let us settle unalterably the line to be pursued by your forces. Of course I do not intend you to understand that Colonel Babcock will give you orders in this matter; but by a personal interview the best thing to do can be arrived at, and by telegraphing to me it can be adopted.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 15, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 11.15 p. m.)

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY,
*Washington:*

No news of special importance from our lines, except that small bodies of cavalry and guerrillas of the enemy are very active between Cumberland and Martinsburg. Several attempts were made to get at the railroad, but the parties were repulsed. Two thousand cavalry of General Averell's division are on the move from Martinsburg to Webster and Clarksburg. It will take them three or four days on the road.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Webster:*

I have received your different dispatches and letters of the 14th, and am satisfied with your arrangements. There must have been great confusion occasioned by the fact that the whole movement to Beverly had to be interrupted and stopped when it had already commenced. The Eleventh Virginia was ordered by me to concentrate at Beverly, which order was not revoked, but I am satisfied with your order in regard to it, because the regiment forms part of your division now, and has to execute your orders. When the troops of Colonel Thoburn arrived at Webster, I directed him to send one regiment to Beverly to repair the road, and he telegraphed to me that he had sent the Twelfth. I also ordered you to send four companies to Weston and four to Philippi, which you say was done. Now you wish to send the Third and Fourth Pennsylvania Regiments to B[everly] to repair the roads. This may be done, as you may be aware by the telegram of Captain Melvin. I, however, would like not to have too many troops at Beverly, because they would eat up our provisions, and their march, especially if they have wagons, will injure the roads at this moment, when they are so very muddy. Could not the same thing be done by a smaller force? You may act as you think best.

I have ordered the chief commissary and quartermaster to stop and keep back all the trains at Clarksburg and Webster until further orders. General Averell is directed to send part of his force to Webster. You may order a detail for the purpose you mention.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Webster, W. Va.:*

Your proposal to start the Third and Fourth Pennsylvania, Reserve Corps, to Beverly, repairing the road as they go, is approved, and you will carry your proposition into effect.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

P. G. BIER,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *April* 15, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Captain RUMSEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

You can take with you, as you desired in your last letter, 1,972 men.

Respectfully,

J. STAHEL,
*General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 15, 1864.
(Received 9.10 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL, *Chief of Cavalry:*

I have the honor to report the stations of the following regiments and detachments:

Twenty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Beverly; Tenth West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, Beverly; Keeper's battery, Beverly; Twenty-first New York Cavalry, Martinsburg; First New York Veteran Cavalry, Martinsburg; First New York (Lincoln) Cavalry, Martinsburg; detachment Sixth Michigan Cavalry, Kearneysville; Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, veteran furlough; detachment Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Pleasant Valley; First Maryland Cavalry, Potomac Home Brigade, veteran furlough; Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Martinsburg; First West Virginia Veteran Cavalry, Martinsburg; Means' battalion Virginia Rangers, Point of Rocks; Third Independent Company Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, Cumberland; Company C, Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry, Cumberland; four companies Third Virginia Cavalry, Buckhannon; Sixth West Virginia Cavalry, Martinsburg; Seventh West Virginia Cavalry, veteran furlough; detachment Seventh West Virginia Cavalry, Martinsburg; Horse Battery G, First West Virginia Artillery, Martinsburg. Four hundred and fifteen men of the Second Brigade moved west to-day by rail. Detachment of Seventh West Virginia Cavalry embarked by rail yesterday.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CHARLESTON, W. VA., *April* 15, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Culpeper:*

I just learn that the Eighth Ohio Cavalry is not yet mounted or equipped, and that it will be sent to West Virginia to be mounted. If such is the case it will not be ready for service for one month yet. Will you have it mounted and equipped in Ohio? It is now in Camp Dennison. I fear I will not get near the number of mounted force you intended I should have. No re-enforcements have reached me yet.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 15, 1864.
(Received 12.04 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

The Swann transport steamer is reported to me as having arrived at Morehead City in a sinking condition, bound for New Orleans, having on board the Twenty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Colonel

Scroggs. General Peck has no transportation in North Carolina, neither have we any here that can be spared. There are 376 men. As Providence has given us the regiment, perhaps it might as well stay.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 15, 1864—8.30 p. m.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

Please ask the Secretary of War to give Colonel Kautz certificate of appointment as brigadier-general, and order him to report to Major-General Butler to command his cavalry.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Comdg. Sub-district of the Albemarle, Plymouth, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Yours of the 13th, at 5 p. m., was received late last evening. A copy was at once sent to Major-General Butler, who has ordered the Third New York Cavalry and two more batteries away from North Carolina.

As you know we are under "bare poles" everywhere in this command. Your request for troops is just about the whole number of General Palmer's force. I at once wrote to Commander Davenport suggesting the sending of the Tacony, which is worth all the other gun-boats here. Her departure will leave us in poor shape so far as the navy is concerned. If she goes, you will be impregnable. If attacked you must hold on and fight the rebels, giving me information, and I will help you all I can.

This is the time, in April, for rebel demonstrations in North Carolina, just in advance of the opening campaign in Virginia. Have they as many available troops in North Carolina as in April of 1862, when Longstreet made feints in order to deceive me and take my forces at Suffolk? Would not heavy detachments now endanger the operations of Lee? Under all the circumstances I think their spring demonstrations will be light. Keep me advised of everything that occurs, so that I may act at the earliest moment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a copy of a letter just received from Brigadier-General Harland, of the date of the 15th, respecting the designs of the enemy in North Carolina.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF THE PAMLICO,
*Washington, N. C., April* 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Commanding Army and District of North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Reports continue to come in in regard to the immediate attack on New Berne and Plymouth. These reports are mostly brought in by negroes, and are all very indefinite; still I think it is the intention of the rebels to make the attack soon, and they are said to be sanguine of success. About 15 or 20 of Kennedy's men came down near our outposts, on the south side of the river, Wednesday evening. I sent out a small force in hopes of capturing them, but they succeeded in escaping. Our men gave them one volley, with what effect could not be ascertained. There were no casualties on our side.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HARLAND,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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NAVY DEPARTMENT, *April* 16, 1864.

[General HALLECK:]

DEAR GENERAL: The very bad weather we have has delayed the iron-clads. Last night the gun-boat towing the Onondaga was blown up, I fear by the coal shells prepared at Richmond and sent North. If the time is pressing please let me know, so that they be sent off without regard to weather.

Very truly,

G. V. FOX.

[Note in pencil by General Halleck:] I do not think the time so pressing as to require extra risks.

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WASHINGTON, *April* 16, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

General Hunter ordered as directed.* Dispatch from General Banks, dated 2d instant, at Alexandria, says Admiral Porter went up Red River that day, the gun-boats having been detained at the rapids by low water. Hopes to reach Shreveport by the 10th. Sigel says General Averell, with 2,000 cavalry, is moving from Martinsburg to Webster and Clarksburg. Two regiments of Gillmore's command have reached Fort Monroe, viz, Fourth New Hampshire and Eighth Maine. General Butler has asked for two more batteries, which will be ordered him to-day. I will send you copy of General Banks' letter.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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*On special service to Department of the Gulf.

CULPEPER, VA., *April* 16, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 11.50 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Order all troops that can be spared from the defenses of Washington, either from new troops arriving or from those already there, to report to General Burnside for assignment to brigades. General Augur mentioned to me the arrival of a regiment of heavy artillery, 2,900 strong, which he could make such disposition of as to give General Burnside a considerable force of infantry.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 16, 1864—12.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

Colonel Kautz will be sent to General Butler, if you deem him more useful there than here in charge of the Cavalry Bureau. There is no competent person here to take his place, and the difficulty of getting horses is daily increasing. Could you not employ General Pope to advantage on the Mississippi River? He is anxious for active employment. There is a regiment of heavy artillery in Baltimore, drilled as infantry, 1,500 strong, which could be sent to the field, if you think it can be spared from General Wallace's command. His last returns give his effective force 6,700. Since then 1,200 have been sent to Harper's Ferry.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 16, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

Only four companies of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry are mounted. No Twenty-seventh New York at cavalry depot. The Twenty-second New York is there, but not mounted, the Army of the Potomac taking every horse as fast as we get one. The fraction of the Eighth Illinois mounted is the only cavalry for picket and scout duty, and the only one acquainted with the country.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Culpeper, Va., April* 16, 1864—6 p. m. (Rec'd 10.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Butler is absolutely without a cavalry commander, and I can think of no one available equal to Kautz. Cannot General J. W. Davidson, or some officer of less rank, now that the duties of the Cavalry Bureau have been changed, do the duties as well? I think

Washburn, whilst he could not command an army as well, would fill the place at Memphis better than General Pope. He is full of energy and will follow instructions. I think probably the heavy artillery with General Wallace had better remain with him. They answer there as a reserve to send to General Sigel, Washington, or almost any place in case of necessity.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 16, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Army of the Potomac:*

The number to be transferred from any one regiment to the Navy is not limited. The quota from the Army of the Potomac cannot be fixed till other armies are heard from. You will be informed as early as possible.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have respectfully to submit the following proposition for the organization of a siege train, should one be required for service with this army near Richmond:

The train should be prepared in Washington, and as a minimum composed of forty 4½-inch siege guns, six spare carriages; ten 10-inch mortars, two spare carriages; twenty 8-inch mortars, four spare carriages; twenty Coehorn mortars.

With the proper implements and equipments, tool wagons, sling carts, battery wagons and forges, mortar wagons, &c., the eight 4½-inch siege guns of Abbot's regiment (First Connecticut Heavy Artillery), lately sent to Washington, to constitute a part of the train. If the material can be brought by water or rail to within a reasonable distance of the point at which the train is to be used, the horse teams of the two siege batteries and those of the Artillery Reserve would be available for transporting the guns, and such additional mule teams as are required to bring them up can, it is supposed, be furnished from the quartermaster's trains. The ammunition trains of the Artillery Reserve and artillery brigades attached to corps can be employed for the transport of the ammunition.

There should be provided for each siege gun 1,000 rounds of ammunition; for each siege mortar 600 shells; for each Coehorn mortar 200. Of this ammunition 200 rounds per piece should be brought up before opening fire; the remainder to be near enough to enable the supply to be kept up. At least 500 sand-bags should be supplied for each gun and mortar of the train, with an equal number in reserve.

I would propose that the organization of the train be intrusted to Colonel Abbot, First Connecticut Artillery, whose regiment served with the siege train at the siege of Yorktown. That the work may proceed with the utmost rapidity, another regiment of foot artillery

(Kellogg's, Warner's, or Piper's) might be added to Colonel Abbot's command. Colonel Kellogg served with credit in the First Connecticut Artillery at Yorktown and is familiar with the duties. The two regiments of foot artillery in the reserve will be available as reliefs, guards for working parties, fabrication of gabions and fascines, filling sand-bags, &c.

The instruction of the regiments with the train in the mechanical maneuvers, laying of platforms, &c., should commence at once. A thorough knowledge of these duties will save much time when every hour is valuable. The material and working directions for constructing magazines, one for every four guns, should also be prepared in advance, that workmen drawn from the foot artillery regiments with the army may assist the engineers or construct them themselves.

It is understood that there are rifled 32-pounders, 4-inch caliber, in the works at Richmond. Should it be considered necessary to oppose to them guns of corresponding power (100-pounders) the ordnance officer should be instructed to prepare them and their material. This would be a timely precaution.

In case it should be thought necessary to move the train by water up the Pamunkey to the neighborhood of Hanover Court-House, instructions should be given to load the material on barges, double-decked ones if possible, such as are used on the Hudson River for transportation of flour, and do not draw more than 5 feet. This depth I understand is found as far up as the bridge at Widow Lumpkin's, near Crump Creek, and within 5 miles by land of the railroad. The depth of water and the nature of the road from the bridge to the railway should be ascertained positively before procuring the barges. A decked scow or two and 100 or 200 feet of trestle bridging, similar to that prepared by Major Duane for the pontoon train, but of stronger dimensions, should be provided to enable landings to be effected at any point.

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 16, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS:

Please say to the lieutenant-general commanding that Shaler's brigade of the Sixth Corps, sent to Sandusky in January last, which was ordered some time ago to return to this army, has not arrived nor any intelligence reached me of its movement. Also two regiments of the Pennsylvania Reserves, ordered to the front from Alexandria, to be relieved there by a part of the Veteran Reserve Corps, have not come forward. I would be glad if any measures can be taken to expedite the movement of these troops.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 16, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN, *Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

Telegram received. I start over immediately.

J. H. WILSON,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April* 16, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR,
*Washington, D. C.:*

Please have the Pennsylvania Reserves at Alexandria relieved and ordered to the front.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, April* 16, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Please report as early as practicable what troops can be spared from the defenses of Washington and armed as infantry for the field.

Yours truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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OFFICE CHIEF Q. M., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 16, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of W. Va., Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: I had the honor to address you a communication on the 13th instant, in relation to the trains of forage en route to Beverly that were ordered to return to Webster, with their extra loads, by order of General Sullivan. The more complete information is herewith transmitted. Orders issued from this office on the 2d instant to Capt. G. A. Flagg, assistant quartermaster at Webster, to send forward to Beverly a certain quantity of short forage were being duly executed, that all trains, as per instructions, might return to Webster prior to the 15th instant. The last trains sent out were as follows:

| Wagon-masters. | Wagons. | Pounds. |
|---|---|---|
| J. J. Warder, citizen | 19 | 23,205 |
| J. E. Sinclair, Government | 25 | 38,888 |
| Stephen Burdette, Government | 20 | 26,167 |
| J. V. Skidmore, Government | 27 | 29,035 |
| James Crogan, Government | 25 | 38,013 |
| Total | 116 | 155,308 |

Being six days' rations for 2,000 horses.

Captain Flagg reports that "messengers were dispatched to have all these wagons returned to Webster by the verbal order of General J. C. Sullivan. Skidmore was within 8 miles of Beverly, Burdette within 23 miles. Warder 12 miles from Webster, Sinclair 12 miles, and Crogan 13 miles. All of which trains came back, excepting 1 mule dead and 7 mules left, with five wagons, on the road." No trains

have been started for Beverly since the 8th instant, or the return of the above. The amount of forage at Beverly reported on hand yesterday, the 15th instant, was 30,000 pounds, being full rations for 2,500 horses for one day. There are now 240 animals at that post. Full supply of subsistence has been sent forward uninterrupted from Clarksburg, as contemplated by instructions sent Captain Dodge at that depot on the 2d instant. About 60,000 rations are now at Beverly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. V. BARRINGER,
*Captain and Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of West Virginia.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, Md., April* 16, 1864—2 p. m.

Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER:

GENERAL: Your two letters are received. As the greater portion of our cavalry and Ewing's battery has been withdrawn from Martinsburg it is necessary to have a force of infantry and a battery there to support the cavalry. You will therefore send the Thirty-fourth Massachusetts, the two Ohio regiments, and one battery to Martinsburg, to march in two days with three days' cooked rations and 60 rounds of cartridges, with as little baggage as possible, and on the shortest and most convenient roads. They will start to-morrow at such time as you may think proper. Some of their baggage may be sent by railroad. Pontoons are at Falling Waters, and the officers there will be instructed to make such arrangements as are necessary to bring the troops at Martinsburg across the river in case of an emergency.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

General Sigel is under the impression from communications made by you to him that you have authority from the Cavalry Bureau to supply your command with horses. If so, he would like to be informed to what extent the authority is given and upon what conditions.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General, Chief of Cavalry.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 16, 1864.

Maj. LOT BOWEN,
*Comdg. Battalion, Third West Va. Cavalry, Buckhannon:*

You will proceed forthwith, with the companies of Third Virginia Cavalry now at Buckhannon, to Clarksburg, and from thence by way of railroad and river to Charleston, to report, as directed in your former orders, without waiting longer on Captain Means' companies. Please acknowledge receipt, and report action.

By order of General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 16, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

As requested by you, I respectfully submit for your consideration the following points, important to my administration of affairs in the Middle Department:

First. I think it indispensable to employ at least six light-draught vessels with which to patrol the Chesapeake Bay along the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Said vessels would be useful for this purpose. Steam-tugs, each armed with a howitzer and manned with a picket guard, will give all the advantage required. I have not with me the data upon which to approximate the cost of such vessels, but will forward exact estimate upon my return to Baltimore.

This employment is necessary to stop more effectually the blockade-running constantly going on across the bay to Virginia, by means of which I am satisfied the rebel army in front of Richmond largely derive their stores, particularly clothing and medicine. Cavalry patrols on the shore have been heretofore resorted to for the suppression of the evil. A glance at the map is thought sufficient for the condemnation of the method.

The employment is essential for another reason. The Middle Department derives its military importance altogether from the great lines of supply and communication that intersect and have their formation in the neighborhood of Baltimore. It is reasonable to infer that the rebels will this summer be more active than ever in assailing those lines.

If the detachments of my command now engaged in watching smugglers' operations, which they are harmless to prevent, can be concentrated and disposed along the railroad, I believe I have enough men to thwart any ordinary raid against them; yet unless boats are employed, as suggested, any such disposition is impossible without a total neglect of the Eastern Shore.

For the suppression of blockade-running I beg to invite your attention to one other point.

I am satisfied that Baltimore is the great point of departure of rebel supplies; against it I propose stringent regulations touching permits and clearances.

If an earnest agent of the Treasury Department were sent to me for consultation, the necessary regulations could be easily arranged. I also propose that dealers (wholesale and retail) in dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, drugs, fire-arms, and hardware, resident in Baltimore, be required to take the oath of allegiance, modified so as to oblige them to sell no goods, nor allow them to be sold by any other person for them or for their benefit, for transportation into the rebel lines, until the prohibitory orders or laws upon the subject are by proper authority repealed or revoked. I have not the oath of allegiance at hand or I would submit a form. If the suggestion is accepted, however, before commencing the system I will forward one. Provost-marshals ought to administer the oath and keep the register.

Second. The next subject for your consideration is in reference to a secret-service fund. Official reports show a debt against the department, incurred by my predecessor or predecessors, of $1,013. To pay that about $400 were turned over to me. In my office I have the exact amounts. If I could have $600 furnished me to pay that indebtedness, I think it possible to get along without other calls upon you. My plan would be to levy fines against venders of liquor

to soldiers, to confiscate and sell the goods seized from blockade-runners, the proceeds, [*sic*] and to assess a small tax for passes issued to persons not connected with the army going down the bay on commercial business or for curiosity.

This business should be under charge of the provost-marshal, who should keep an account of the tax collections and a record of convictions and fines against liquor dealers and the blockade property confiscated and converted, and turn over the money thus raised to my quartermaster, who on his part should disburse the same money upon requisitions duly approved. In this way speculation would be impossible and the Government decidedly benefited.

Third. In the last place, I respectfully request that the Soldiers' Relief in Baltimore be placed under my control, through the commissary of my corps. I spoke of this matter fully to-day, but pardon me for repeating that I can save the Government thousands of dollars by simply uniting to the cause the State and city donations and the charities of private individuals. But what I care for chiefly is, I can use it as a means to draw to my support and that of the Union cause the active and practical sympathy of many of the wisest, purest, and best of the Unionists of Baltimore. I therefore beg you will let me try its management, under the immediate superintendence of my commissary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEW. WALLACE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, *April* 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

I have just this moment received your letter of the 15th of April, brought by the hands of Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith.

You are entirely right in saying there should be but one movement made south of James River. At no time has more been intended. I went to Fort Monroe for the express purpose of seeing you and telling you that it was my plan to have the force under you act directly in concert with the Army of the Potomac, and as far as possible toward the same point. My mind was entirely made up what instructions to give, and I was very much pleased to find that your previously conceived views exactly coincided.

All the force that can be taken from the coast has been ordered to report to you at Fort Monroe by the 18th instant, or as soon thereafter as possible. What I ask is, that with them, and all you can concentrate from your own command, you seize upon City Point and act from there, looking upon Richmond as your objective point. If you can send cavalry to Hicksford and cut the railroad connection at that point it is a good thing to do so. I do not pretend to say how your work is to be done, but simply lay down what, and trust to you and those under you for doing it well. Keep what vessels may be necessary for your operations. No supplies are going to North Carolina, except such as may be necessary for the troops there.

I presume the call for vessels is in consequence of the preparations ordered for supplying our armies after a new base is established. The quartermaster did not know where they were to go, but that he was to have supplies afloat, and supposed they were for

North Carolina. I hope this delusion will be kept up both North and South until we do move. If it should prove possible for you to reach Richmond, so as to invest all on the south side of the river and fortify yourself there, I shall have but little fear of the result.

The rains have now continued so long that it will be impossible to move earlier than the 25th, so I will set that date for making your calculations. All men afloat could then be sent up York River, as you proposed, to conceal our real designs, if you were not then prepared to move.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 16, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

The Thirty-third New York and the Fifth New Jersey Batteries have been ordered to Fort Monroe. General Meigs will send ocean transportation for the part of the Twenty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops at Morehead City.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, April* 16, 1864—5 p. m.

Capt. G. D. WISE,
*Assistant Quartermaster, Baltimore:*

Proceed to Philadelphia and New York and consult with Colonel Crosman and Major Van Vliet, and dispatch to Washington as quickly as possible all the light-draught steamers that can be obtained, and send to Fort Monroe not less than fifty schooners and forty barges suitable for transporting horses, wagons, and troops. These should be dispatched at the earliest possible moment, and be ordered to report to the quartermasters at Washington and Fort Monroe. We have a large number of steamers within reach of Washington, which will be made available, and all that are now in service between Philadelphia, New York, and Fort Monroe should be assembled in the Potomac as soon as possible. Communicate these instructions confidentially to Colonel Crosman and Major Van Vliet. Take up any suitable vessels in Baltimore; usual terms and conditions of charter to be adhered to. Telegraph daily progress.

M. C. MEIGS,
*Quartermaster-General.*

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HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
*Hilton Head, S. C., April* 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fortress Monroe:*

GENERAL: In the letter from the General-in-Chief directing me to report to you with certain forces from this department, to be selected by myself, he says: "The troops which you bring with you and those which join you at Fort Monroe will constitute the Tenth Army Corps."

I have organized the forces going from this command into three

divisions, as you will see, one of three brigades and two of two brigades each. I desire to add a brigade to Vogdes' and one to Turner's divisions from forces to be assigned to the corps after it reaches your command. I most earnestly hope you will favor the arrangement. My artillery force is below the orthodox minimum for the force I bring by at least four six-gun batteries. If two more brigades, of, say, 2,500 men each, are added to my corps, as I hope they will be, I should have six more batteries than I now have. Three of my batteries are of four guns each, but I shall bring with me the material to raise them to six guns. Brigadier-General Vogdes bears this letter, and is directed to report to you to take command of the Tenth Corps as it arrives from time to time.

Brigadier-General Terry will follow in a day or two, and will then command the corps until my arrival. General Turner will remain a few days longer still, while I do not propose to leave here or turn over my command of this department until all my troops are in motion and the last regiment ready to embark. Great delay has occurred here in concentrating my scattered forces, but it could not be avoided. I can bring a supply of engineer material, if you think proper.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 17, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

General Kautz ordered to Fort Monroe; Washburn to Memphis; Crittenden to Burnside. Fort Smith and Indian Territory added to the Department of Arkansas, and General Blunt ordered to General Curtis. An infantry regiment, organized from Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, for General Burnside. I will write you to-day about others. Messenger from General Gillmore just arrived, with list of regiments to be left in the Department of the South. He wishes those on that list now here to be sent south immediately. Shall I so order? He hopes to have from 7,000 to 10,000 at Fort Monroe by the 20th, if weather should favor. Shall those parts of his troops which are not to remain in the Department of the South be sent to meet him at Fort Monroe, or wait here until he arrives there himself? A naval officer in North Carolina writes that rebel troops from the South are being concentrated at Weldon and Richmond, the military having taken possession of all railroads. It is reported that all males that are capable of bearing arms are being conscripted in the Shenandoah Valley and concentrated at Luray, and that wagon trains are transporting all forage and provisions from that valley to Lee's army.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

GENERAL: As I telegraphed this morning, I have ordered General Augur to organize an infantry regiment for General Burnside out

of the Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery. I asked him if he could not spare the Second New York Heavy Artillery also, but he thinks it would leave his line too weak. I therefore submit the matter for your decision, with the following remarks: The line of defenses is about 37 miles in length. Some of the works are not completed, and the recent heavy rains have so injured some of them as to require extensive repairs by working parties. They are now garrisoned by ten regiments and one battalion of heavy artillery; effective force about 14,000, or, deducting regiment ordered for Burnside, about 13,000. Very few of these men have ever been under fire and one-third are raw recruits.

The public stores and buildings are guarded exclusively, with the exception of two or three special detachments, by invalids (Veteran Reserves). General Tyler has in the front, on railroad and picketing Bull Run and the Occoquan, about 2,000 infantry, 1,000 cavalry, and a battery of artillery. There are also a few companies of cavalry and infantry north of the Potomac, guarding railroads and picketing the river to the mouth of the Monocacy.

There are always at the artillery depot a number of batteries, being repaired and fitted out, and at the present time there are some 4,000 dismounted cavalrymen. All these, in case of an emergency, could be armed as infantry and placed in the trenches.

The public stores are mostly in wooden sheds, and if not well guarded would be burned by the rebels in this city and Alexandria. The board of officers ordered by the Secretary of War to report on the defenses estimated that, with a covering army in front, they should be garrisoned by 25,000 men and 3,000 cavalry for reconnoitering in front. This was exclusive of the store-house guards and military police. With no covering army the complete garrison should be 50,000. I think the estimates made to the President by the generals under McClellan at the time of his Peninsular campaign were about the same.

I have always considered this line of defense too long, but very able officers are of a different opinion. The evil, if it exists, cannot probably be remedied now. Perhaps the forts south of Anacostia Creek might be abandoned. If so, as they bear on the arsenal and navy-yard, they should be dismantled and the guns and ammunition removed.

I submit herewith a list of the heavy artillery regiments now here, with effective strength, that you may decide what forces shall be assigned to General Burnside's command:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st Vermont | 1,460 |
| 1st Maine | 1,591 |
| 7th New York | 1,560 |
| 9th New York | 1,322 |
| 2d New York | 783 |
| 10th New York | 1,278 |
| 1st Connecticut | 1,199 |
| 2d Connecticut | 1,442 |
| 1st Massachusetts | 1,478 |
| 2d Pennsylvania | 1,846 |
| One battalion (Wisconsin) | 388 |

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,

*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April* 17, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Should a siege of Richmond become necessary, siege guns, ammunition, and equipments can be got from the arsenal at Washington and Fort Monroe very rapidly. Every preparation is made for all classes of transportation by water, so that these things can be directed to any point by water we may require them. Once at the nearest landing, with the means of transportation with an army, they can be readily moved to any point inland they may be wanted. The means of manning heavy artillery is always at hand with an army, as well as the means of constructing batteries. I will take advantage of General Hunt's suggestion as to the proper officer to get the siege train ready, and to a great extent his suggestions as to the number, caliber, &c., of guns necessary for it.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I desire to report that, in conformity with my construction of your confidential letter of the 9th instant, the following instructions have been given by me:

The Commissary Department, through its chief at these headquarters, has been notified that, at the close of the present month or early in the next, there will be required 1,000,000 of rations on shipboard in suitable vessels for being taken up the Pamunkey or James River, as may be required, and, in advance of more specific instructions, Fortress Monroe has been designated as a proper point of assemblage. The Quartermaster's Department has been notified that, at the same time and place, forage and other supplies furnished by that department will be required. The Ordnance Department has been notified to have in similar readiness 100 rounds of artillery ammunition per gun and 100 rounds of small-arm per man. The Engineer Department has been instructed to have the siege trains [now at Washington] in readiness for shipment, and such engineering tools and other supplies [in addition to those carried with the army] as would be required in the event of laying siege to Richmond. A special communication has been made to you in reference to the artillery for a siege train, in case one should be required before Richmond. The Medical Department has been notified that in addition to the supplies now in depot at Alexandria, and which will be kept there as long as the Orange and Alexandia Railroad can be used, medical supplies for some 12,000 wounded should be held in readiness on shipboard, to be thrown up the Pamunkey or James, as circumstances may require. It is proper to observe, in connection with this duplication of reserve medical supplies, that in case a battle is fought within communicating distance of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad the supplies at Alexandria can be thrown forward; but if a rapid movement is made across the country, and a battle fought in the vicinity of Richmond, these supplies would have to be drawn from some other point; and the time which it would take

after the battle occurs to transfer from Alexandria to this point, and the consequent suffering that might ensue, justify, in my judgment, this duplication of battle reserve supplies, and their being held in readiness at some point nearer than Alexandria.

The foregoing arrangements and instructions are based on the contingency of the enemy's falling back without giving battle. Each department has been notified to look to the quartermaster's department for intimation of the period when the different supplies ordered should be sent to any particular point.

For an immediate movement the following instructions have been given:

The ordnance department notified to have in readiness to issue, at short notice, 150 rounds small-arm ammunition, 50 rounds to be carried on the person and 100 in supply train. The subsistence department to have on hand for issue sixteen days' marching rations; four of salt meat and twelve of beef on the hoof; six days to be carried on the person [three full rations in haversacks and three small rations in knapsacks]; the balance in supply trains. The quartermaster's department to have ten days' full allowance of grain for all animals. The medical department to be prepared to send the sick at short notice to the rear, and to have all necessary field-hospital supplies on hand. These preliminary instructions being given, it will require from three to four days' notice to issue and load supply trains and prepare the army to move at an hour's notice.

This communication is respectfully submitted, that you may be fully advised of the steps I have taken, and that my attention may be called to the fact in case I have done more or less than is expected and required of me.

Respectfully, yours,

[GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*]

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 17, 1864—5.25 p. m.

Captain MERRILL:

Enemy have materially strengthened their position upon both sides of Somerville Ford, and are busily engaged to-day erecting a line of intrenchments up the northeast slope of Clark's Mountain, commencing about a mile in the rear of the Halsey house. No other changes observable.

PAINE.

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APRIL 17, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Captain PAINE,
*Pony Mountain:*

Do you mean the enemy have strengthened position on both sides of the river or on the road on the other side?

MERRILL.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 17, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Captain MERRILL:

The enemy has no troops on this side of the river. I allude to the heights on the south bank.

PAINE.

ASST. INSP. GEN.'S OFFICE, HDQRS. CAV. CORPS,
*April* 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. KINGSBURY, Jr.,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the major-general commanding the corps, the following remarks in regard to the Third and First Cavalry Divisions, which have been inspected by me during the past week:

In the First Brigade, Third Division, Brigadier-General Davies commanding, there are large deficiencies of carbines and pistols in all the regiments but one, the First Connecticut Cavalry. This regiment, however, is armed with Smith carbines, which are reported by the officers as entirely unreliable. In my opinion they are worthless, and should be turned in at once and replaced by others. The commanding officer of the Fifth New York Cavalry, of this brigade, has given the Spencer repeating carbines a fair trial in action and considers them a capital arm. The commanding officer of the First Connecticut Cavalry reports 85 men of his command as having formerly served in the enemy's cavalry, being deserters who took the oath of allegiance, and on entering our service were assigned to his regiment. He has no confidence in them; has them dismounted now in camp, and is very anxious that they should be sent to the rear, as they would be summarily dealt with if captured by the enemy, and therefore could not be relied upon in action. This measure is recommended for the benefit of the regiment. The camps of the brigade are good, except that of the First Connecticut, which, having recently joined, has no quarters built, and in the recent bad weather the men, having no covering but shelter-tents, have suffered great discomfort. With the exception of this regiment, the adjutants' offices are in poor condition throughout the brigade. This is specially the case in the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

The Second Brigade at the date of my inspection was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, First Vermont Cavalry, a very efficient officer, who was using every effort to get the brigade into good condition, as it had become considerably disorganized during the winter from the effects of General Kilpatrick's raid and a too frequent change of commanders. In this brigade, as in the First, there are very large deficiencies of arms and horses. There is no uniformity in clothing and no regard paid to the regulations requiring hair and beard to be neatly trimmed throughout almost all of these regiments. The First Vermont is the best-appointed regiment in the brigade. The Sixth Michigan is in poor condition and demands much care and attention in all respects. The camps of the Fifth and Seventh Michigan are very badly located, and the latter was in a bad state of police. I recommend that this camp especially be removed without delay to higher ground and a healthier atmosphere.

The First Brigade of the First Division, commanded by Colonel Chapman, Third Indiana Cavalry, is very small and has about 250 dismounted men. I found the camp of the Third Indiana Cavalry in a bad state of police. I recommend the camp be moved. The arms of this regiment were in very bad order. Their equipments and clothing relieved the eye by their great variety. The ordinary uniform and horse equipments of the United States are ignored in this command, which cannot be excelled in efficiency in action and only fails to be as efficient in other respects on account of the indif-

ference of the officers to military appearance and requirements. There is a detachment of about 100 men of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry encamped separately, without any system whatever. It covers an area of about 2 acres. About one-third of the detachment have no horses and arms. I recommend that they be assigned to the Third Indiana Cavalry. The Eighth New York Cavalry was in good condition, but the horses of the whole brigade are thin and appear to be entirely unfit for any hard duty without rest and recuperation.

In the Second Brigade, commanded by Colonel Devin, Sixth New York Cavalry, there are large deficiencies of horses and arms. This brigade has, however, the best horses in either division. Those of the Fourth New York Cavalry are especially good and evince care and good treatment. The men are also clean and neat, and wear the prescribed uniform. The Seventeenth Pennsylvania Cavalry appear to bear an undue proportion of outpost duty. With less than 300 mounted men present, the regiment relieves its own detail of 84 men for picket. This regiment has 203 men on detached service at division and brigade headquarters. The regimental wagons and teams of the Fourth New York and Seventeenth Pennsylvania Regiments are in poor condition, and appear to be neglected or overworked.

The Reserve Brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Merritt, is probably encamped on the worst ground within the lines of the army. No amount of care or police will render the camps neat or healthy. The horses are used up, and are in a deplorable condition for active duty in the field. This brigade, in my opinion, needs an opportunity to rest and recuperate, that its well-known efficiency in the field may not be destroyed. The First New York Dragoons require improvements in uniforms and hair-cutting. This regiment is armed with Joslyn carbines, which are unreliable and worthless. These arms should at once be turned in and the regiment supplied with others. It is rather unaccountable that this has not been done before.

As the general result of my observations in these two divisions, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, the troops are not in condition to perform active duty with credit, on account of the condition of their horses and the deficiencies and in some cases inferior quality of fire-arms. With heavy outpost duty in all sorts of weather, and almost no long forage, the regiments are so scattered and worn down that a proper supervision of officers is almost impossible, and the animals cannot be kept in condition. If it were at all practicable to relieve these commands from active duty now, that their whole attention would be given to reorganizing for even a short period, immense good would result. I am decidedly of the opinion that the best interests of the service demand that such opportunity be afforded if possible. Paper reports give no idea of the state of these commands. I am convinced that both divisions cannot put into line of battle 5,000 efficient cavalry at the present time. I have the honor to suggest that an order be issued requiring the men to wear fatigue caps and blouses as permanent uniform. This dress is recommended for regularity, neatness, and economy, and can almost at any time be promptly drawn from the depots, especially if dress jackets are no longer required. The pioneers are not very well organized throughout the command. It is respectfully submitted that from 5 to 7 men are sufficient for a regiment if properly equipped, and the attention of the brigade commanders should be directed to this important organization. With the few exceptions I have noted the wagons and teams

of these two divisions are in very fine order, and serviceable in every respect. A very marked improvement is observed in the Third Division in this particular.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. C. NEWHALL,
*Captain and Acting Assistant Inspector-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Warrenton, Va., April 17, 1864.*

Colonel SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

I sent a party last night by way of Waterloo to Amissville. No enemy could be found nor had any been in that vicinity for a week.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April 17, 1864.*

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Division:*

General Davies, of the Third Division, has been ordered to report to you for duty. This became necessary from the assignment of General Wilson to command a division in this corps.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April 17, 1864.*

Major-General SHERIDAN:

I assumed command this morning. Have been through camp to-day. They are badly located, and must be changed as soon as possible. Custer's brigade has not gone yet. When shall I look for Chapman? I need some such brigade commander as Bob Williams, and want your assistance to get him.

J. H. WILSON,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

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CULPEPER, *April 17, 1864—12 p. m.*
(Received 1.15 a. m., 18th.)

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

General Ord has been relieved from duty, at his own request. Send General Averell in command of the expedition already directed, or go yourself, as you deem most advisable. Should you go, it will be necessary to leave an officer in whose judgment you can place the greatest reliance to command everything you leave behind.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 17, 1864—11.30 p. m.
(Received 10.50 a. m., 18th.)

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS,
*Chief of Staff:*

Please inform the general that General Sigel has telegraphed to General Crook for some information, but cannot obtain it before morning, as the wires are down. Soon as the information is received General Sigel will telegraph in full. General Sigel reports that he needs at once at least 2,500 horses for the old regiments, and soon as available some 4,000 for the new and veteran regiments. If the 2,500 cannot be obtained at once it will materially cripple the anticipated movement. General Sigel asks if something cannot be done. His chief quartermaster has asked the Cavalry Bureau for permission to pay $153 and to purchase a portion of mares at proper prices.

O. E. BABCOCK,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 17, 1864—2.30 p. m.
(Received 7.10 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

The following telegram from General Crook is just received:

Reports, corroborated by several deserters, state that all of Longstreet's command except one division, which is stationed near Cumberland Gap, passed over the railroad toward Richmond several days ago.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 17, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

I have information that Mosby with a portion of his gang is near Lovettsville; that 4 of his men are to-night at the German settlement, 3 miles west of Lovettsville and 1½ miles south of Knoxville, impressing teams and preparing six days' rations.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 17, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

The Thirty-fourth Massachusetts, the One hundred and twenty-third and One hundred and sixteenth Ohio Infantry Regiments, and Battery B, First Maryland Light Artillery, left for Martinsburg this morning at 8 o'clock. The pontoon bridge across Falling Waters is laid, and open for travel for cavalry, infantry, and artillery. The

bridge across the canal is not yet ready; so troops must move up the tow-path and across at Williamsport, or, coming down, keep the tow-path to Shepherdstown. This path is too narrow for wagons.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 150. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, April* 17, 1864.

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2. Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Volunteers, will immediately repair to Fort Monroe, Va., and report for duty to Major-General Butler, U. S. Volunteers, commanding the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 17, 1864.

Actg. Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
*Comdg. N. A. B. Squadron, off Newport News, Va.:*

ADMIRAL: I inclose to you copies of two communications* I have just received from General Peck, which I commend to your attention. I myself am not much impressed with the views of Generals Peck and Wessells, upon the information stated; but if it would not be inconsistent with your views of service for a few days, I wish you would send the Perry or some other light boat down there, as for reasons which you understand I do not propose to re-enforce with troops.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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NEW YORK, *April* 17, 1864.

General B. F. BUTLER:

General Ledlie's brigade of three regiments embarked on the steamer Ericsson on Friday. Should have been at Fort Monroe last night.

STEWART VAN VLIET.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Comdg. Dist. of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Your communication of the 14th instant, inclosing letter of General Wessells, received. It will be necessary for you to

* See pp. 280 and 281.

hold North Carolina with your present force. The commanding general suggests that you send to General Wessells at once a sufficient number of troops from New Berne to enable him to hold his present position against any force likely to attack him. While it is always best to be prepared, yet the commanding general believes the force of the enemy to be greatly overestimated. Admiral Lee has been furnished with a copy of General Wessells' letter, and requested to send one or more boats to co-operate with him. You will have to defend the district with your present force, and you will make such disposition of them as will in your judgment best subserve this end.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
*Chief of Staff, Department of the South:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 15th instant received. I have required for 20,000 shelter-tents for your corps; also arranged for ammunition and small-arms. I had made arrangements to supply you with what land transportation and ambulances you would be short of. I would recommend that you bring with you the four or six guns that you say you have no more horses for, and I will endeavor to supply you with horses here. As fast as troops arrive I send them to Yorktown, where it is intended to rendezvous your command. Please see to it that all light-draught transportation is sent up. Cavalry horses are very scarce; bring with you all that are fit for service.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 18, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:*

Your note of this date, inclosing copy of Mr. Geoffrey's note to the honorable Secretary of State, together with the reply he proposes to make, is just received. It is rather embarrassing to know how to answer, because to refuse to allow the French to go on bringing out their tobacco would indicate that we expect to use the line of the James River; to permit a continuance will give the enemy information of the very day we make any move from Fort Monroe. Altogether I think it would be better to say that the time expiring on the 23d instant for French vessels bringing out tobacco, they will be allowed until that time and no longer, until new stipulations are entered into, and which will not be entertained until after the spring campaign is over, or at least shall grant no privileges to enter rebel ports until such campaign is closed. This I give simply as my view. Any other arrangement entered into, with the sanction of the President, of course I shall not oppose.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

WASHINGTON, *April* 18, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

The Eighth Ohio Cavalry was ordered to be mounted and equipped at Camp Dennison, and then sent to General Crook. The Cavalry Bureau has been directed to do this at once. General W. S. Smith, at Nashville, has called on General Davidson for 30,000 cavalry horses. Such requisitions cannot possibly be filled. On March 28 General Pope asked for a delay in sending the Sixth Minnesota to the Army of the Potomac, for reasons given. I will immediately send you a copy of his letter, or will make the order peremptory, if you say so. Pope's force against Indians is very small.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, *April* 18, 1864—7.30 p. m.
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Except the regiment which General Augur proposed to spare, I did not expect to order any troops from the defenses of Washington. It was only such unassigned troops as may arrive that I expected to have report to General Burnside. The regiment which has been assigned to him please order to Alexandria, to relieve troops now there from this army on special duty, the latter to join their proper commands at the front.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, *April* 18, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

There is such a call for cavalry horses from all parts of the army that I would suggest the propriety of an order from the Secretary of War authorizing department commanders to convert 40 per cent. of all their cavalry into infantry, selecting those regiments that have required the greatest number of horses to keep them up to be dismounted. There is full that percentage of cavalry in service more than can be kept mounted and more than is required. If it would be acting in bad faith to dismount them, I would discharge them altogether.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 18, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

I desire to have assigned to duty, according to their brevet rank, Major-Generals Barlow and Ricketts, now on duty with this army.

Major-General Barlow has been so assigned by the lieutenant-general commanding, pending the action of the President of the United States.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Brigadier-General Devens is a good officer; formerly belonged to the Sixth Corps, in which is Prince's brigade. He will do very well.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 19. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April* 18, 1864.

I. The following order has been received from the War Department, and is published for general information:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 125. WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, March* 29, 1864.

Furloughs, not to exceed thirty days in each case, to the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Army who may desire to enter the free military school at Philadelphia, may be granted by the commanders of armies and departments, when the character, conduct, and capacity of the applicants are such as to warrant their immediate and superior commanders in recommending them for commissioned appointments in the regiments of colored troops.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

II. To carry into effect the requirements of the foregoing order, corps and other independent commanders will appoint a board, consisting of three officers, whose duty it shall be to examine the applicants for admission into the free military school at Philadelphia, and the boards so appointed will report in each case whether, in their opinion, the character, conduct, and capacity of the applicant are such as to induce the belief that after a stay of thirty days at the military school he will be qualified for a commissioned appointment in a colored regiment.

III. The reports of the boards will be forwarded through the usual channel of correspondence to these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: It has been reported to me that large numbers of men are applying for transfer to the naval service from the batteries of this army. In some cases the applications are so numerous from certain batteries as to threaten seriously to impair their efficiency.

I have therefore respectfully to bring the subject to the notice of the general commanding, with the request that if practicable a limit at least should be placed on the number to be transferred from any one battery.

Inclosed are reports for which I called on the chief of artillery of corps.*

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

[Indorsement.]

APRIL 22, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

The orders of the War Department respecting transfers from the army to the naval service are without limitation. All men, therefore, who apply for transfer to the Navy and who pass a satisfactory examination must for the present be transferred.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 18, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Captain MERRILL:

I have carefully reconnoitered the enemy's position to-day, and can discover no change from previous reports. All quiet in direction of Madison Court-House and Sperryville. Can discover no new camps nor disappearance of any of the old ones.

PAINE.

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*April* 18, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

Following dispatch has been referred to me:

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *April* 18, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Great complaint is made by trainmen about the conduct of soldiers at Rappahannock Station and between there and Bealeton. Stones are frequently thrown by them at the men and signal lights of passing trains. Last night while No. 12 train was taking water at Rappahannock bridge, at 8.15 p. m., some soldiers attempted to interfere with the engine, and after the train had started broke one of the rear signal lights with stones or pieces of wood. The last extra of No. 9 train last night was stoned by soldiers near the bridge about half mile west of Bealeton, and both signal lights were broken and brakemen nearly knocked off the train.

By giving this matter your attention you will greatly oblige,

M. J. McCRICKETT.

Will you please make such arrangements as will catch these offenders if they repeat their operations?

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General.*

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*Omitted.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 18, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG:

Information has been received that a force of the enemy's cavalry, estimated from one to three regiments, is in the vicinity of Jefferson. The major-general commanding directs that you send a brigade immediately to attack and drive off this force. Inform Major-General Sheridan of this order. He is supposed to be at Warrenton.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 18, 1864.
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I sent out early this morning a large scout of cavalry and infantry into the vicinity of Upperville.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Warrenton, Va., April* 18, 1864.

Colonel SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The brigade sent from this division could not cross the Rappahannock at Sulphur Springs. Some dismounted men were crossed and they went to Jefferson without finding or hearing anything of the enemy. I have sent a force to Waterloo, if possible, or to continue the stream beyond Waterloo to effect a crossing where it is practicable to do so.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CHARLESTON, W. VA., *April* 18, 1864—2.30 p. m.
(Received 6.20 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

It will be impossible for me to be supplied with the requisite number of horses to mount my men within the proper time with the present facilities in this department. Will you authorize me to purchase horses in Ohio for that purpose? Deserters report all Longstreet's corps gone in direction of Richmond except one division, which is near Cumberland Gap.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 18, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 11.40 p. m.)

General RAWLINS,
*Chief of Staff, Culpeper:*

GENERAL: I have examined as fully as possible here the present state of the roads to Beverly and from Beverly in all directions, and

believe them to be impassable for heavy trains. It was snowing there yesterday. Also that General Sigel's transportation is still limited, too much so for a cavalry force.

I think General Sigel's plan is the only one by which his force can be used to an advantage at present, and not uncover the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The forces he proposes to send to General Crook are at Clarksburg and Webster, and can be sent to General Crook within five days. The cavalry can march from Clarksburg.

The concentration in the Shenandoah Valley can commence at once and progress as rapidly as horses and transportation can be supplied.

There are 200 wagons at Hagerstown now fitting out, but cannot be sent in time to use at Beverly. They can be used in the valley.

O. E. BABCOCK.

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 18, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 11.50 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

According to the latest reports received from General Ord and General Sullivan at Webster, as well as from General Crook on the Kanawha and Colonel Moor at Beverly, and following my own convictions, I find the following measures the best and most promising under the present circumstances. They are—

First. Give up the expedition by Beverly and leave only a small post of observation there, with one regiment of cavalry to hold connection between the force on the Kanawha and our lines on the railroad.

Second. Form only two columns, one under General Crook on the Kanawha, strongest, and one on the Shenandoah, which would make that on the Kanawha about 10,000 men ; that in the Shenandoah Valley about 7,000. General Averell will be ordered with 1,000 cavalry to General Crook, to take command of his cavalry division, which will consist of eight regiments, of which at least 2,500 will be effective immediately.

Third. The other cavalry division and the rest of the infantry, with a strong force of artillery in proportion to the other arms, will assemble between Cumberland and the Shenandoah, and the infantry and artillery will be advanced to Cedar Creek, with such cavalry as can be made effective at the moment, to threaten the force of the enemy in Shenandoah Valley, and to advance as soon and as far as possible. General Crook will be ordered to take possession of Lewisburg with part of his forces, and to march down the Tennessee Railroad to do as much damage as he can ; to destroy the New Creek bridge or the salt-works, which are two real objects, or to operate as you may think proper.

I have spoken in detail with Colonel Babcock, and he says that he will telegraph you his opinion.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

NEW CREEK, *April* 18, 1864.
(Received 9.20 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. JULIUS STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

Smith has just sent in the following dispatch:

SENECA, PENDLETON COUNTY.

No force at Moorefield or Petersburg. Report says Imboden and McNeill are to be at Franklin to-day. Will go over and see. It is reported that rebels are concentrating on South Branch also. Will see before I return.

JAS. A. MULLIGAN.

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 18, 1864.

Captain RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

You will please forward without delay the remainder of the force to Webster and Clarksburg, also Ewing's battery of artillery, and report in person as soon as practicable to the commanding general of the department.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 18, 1864.
(Received 18th.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL:

My troops will get off to-morrow morning if the transportation all arrives as expected, and I shall be at Cumberland to-morrow.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 18, 1864.
(Received 12.18 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL:

I have railroad transportation for 700 horses and men, and am informed that sufficient is expected by to-morrow morning for the entire balance.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 18, 1864.
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

General J. STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

It will be necessary to take the 100 men at Bath, as that is a part of the force equipped for detached service. Others will be sent there as soon as practicable.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

MARTINSBURG, *April* 18, 1864.
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

I have at Clarksburg 356 Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, 557 First West Virginia; at Webster 230 Twenty-first New York.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 18, 1864.
(Received 6.15 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

Your telegram received. Battery is on the cars and cavalry commencing to embark.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., April* 18, 1864.

Col. R. F. TAYLOR,
*First New York Veteran Volunteer Cavalry:*

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding is about to set out with a large portion of the effective force of this division upon expeditionary duty. The command of the detachments of the First Brigade (First New York Veteran Cavalry, First New York (Lincoln) Cavalry, Twenty-first New York Cavalry, Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry), Second Brigade (Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, First West Virginia Veteran Cavalry, Sixth West Virginia Cavalry), and the remount camp in Pleasant Valley is devolved upon you.

Accurate rolls of the officers and men going under the command of General Averell will be sent to you at the first favorable opportunity. Copies of orders which you may need for reference are hereby inclosed.

Your first most important and constant duty will be to fit your command for active service in the field, by supplying its wants and instructing the officers and men. Let every step be taken to achieve your purpose in that respect.

Secondly, it will be required of you to watch the enemy in your front, extending from Shenandoah River to Back Creek, and to inform the major-general commanding the department daily by telegraph of your observations.

Keep your command as much as possible together and in readiness to move at short notice. The brigadier-general commanding relies upon you to enforce his orders with regard to discipline. Maj. T. F. Lang, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. G. H. North, ordnance officer; Lieut. H. N. Harrison, acting engineer, and Capt. E. Frey, assistant commissary of musters, all of the division staff, will report to you for duty during the absence of the brigadier-general commanding.

Colonel, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILL RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 25. } HDQRS. MID. DEPT., 8TH ARMY CORPS, *Baltimore, Md., April* 18, 1864.

The following-named officers are announced as the staff of the major-general commanding, or assigned to staff duty with this army corps:

Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Lawrence, assistant adjutant-general.
Lieut. Col. Lynde Catlin, assistant inspector-general.
Lieut. Col. Alexander Bliss, quartermaster.
Lieut. Col. Joseph G. Crane, commissary of subsistence.
Lieut. Col. John Woolley, Fifth Indiana Cavalry, provost-marshal.
Maj. James R. Ross, aide-de-camp.
Maj. William M. Este, aide-de-camp.
Maj. Henry Z. Hayner, additional aide-de-camp.
Capt. Maxwell V. Z. Woodhull, aide-de-camp.
Capt. Dickinson P. Thruston, aide-de-camp.
Maj. Josiah Simpson, surgeon U. S. Army, medical director.
Maj. C. C. Cox, surgeon U. S. Army, medical purveyor.
Maj. H. W. Wharton, U. S. Army, commissary of musters.
Maj. W. L. Marshall, judge-advocate.
Second Lieut. Charles L. Isaacs, U. S. Volunteers, acting ordnance officer.

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General Wallace:

SAMUEL B. LAWRENCE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CULPEPER, VA., *April* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

I send Lieutenant-Colonel Dent, of my staff, with this, not with the view of changing any instructions given, but more particularly to secure full co-operation between your command and that of General Meade.

I will, as you understand, expect you to move from Fort Monroe the same day General Meade starts from here. The exact time I will telegraph as soon as it can be fixed. At present the roads are in such condition that the time could not be fixed earlier than the 27th instant. You can understand therefore you have fully to that date to make your preparations. You also understand that with the forces here I shall aim to fight Lee between here and Richmond, if he will stand. Should Lee, however, fall back into Richmond, I will follow up and make a junction with your army on the James River. Could I be certain that you will be able to invest Richmond on the south side, so as to have your left resting on the James above the city, I would form the junction there. Circumstances may make this course advisable anyhow. I would say, therefore, use every exertion to secure footing as far up the south side of the river as you can, and as soon as possible.

If you hear of our advancing from that direction, or have reason to judge from the action of the enemy that they are looking for danger to that side, attack vigorously, and if you cannot carry the city, at least detain as large a force there as possible. You will want all the co-operation from the navy that can be got. Confer freely

with Admiral Lee your plans, that he may make as much preparation as possible. If it is possible to communicate with you after determining my exact line of march, I will do so.

Inform me by return of Colonel Dent your present situation and state of readiness for moving.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
*Commanding Tenth Army Corps, Port Royal, S. C.:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to request that you bring with you the engineering materials spoken of in your letter to him of the 16th instant. We will endeavor to comply with your request in regard to artillery. Everything will be done that can be with our limited means to furnish you with whatever is necessary to make your command efficient. It is all-important that you get here with your command at as early a day as possible.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 108. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
*Fort Monroe, Va., April* 18, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XVI. Brig. Gen. Israel Vogdes, U. S. Volunteers, will proceed to Yorktown, Va., and assume command of all the troops belonging to the Tenth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND,
*Commanding Sub-district of the Pamlico, Washington:*

GENERAL: The commanding general has just received information of a combined movement on the part of the enemy against the different posts of this command. General Corse, with some five regiments of Virginia troops, came down last night within a few miles of our picket-line with the intention, as it is supposed, to draw troops from Plymouth and Washington to this place and to prevent re-enforcements leaving here. The deserters further state that General Pickett is to attack Little Washington to-morrow (Tuesday).

In view of this information, the general has ordered the Thomas Collyer with not less than 600 men to proceed to Washington with all possible dispatch. He has also arranged with Commander Davenport to send the gun-boat Tacony to Washington. She will leave this evening. She is the largest and one of the most valuable of her class in the Navy, and will be of great service to you in keep-

ing open and protecting your communication on the river. Her value is so great that it virtually leaves us without any gun-boat. As General Butler has just taken almost 1,200 of our best troops, including two batteries, from North Carolina, and inasmuch as Plymouth is also threatened heavily, and as it is not certain where the enemy will strike, the general does not deem it wise or prudent to detach any further aid to you until something more definite is known as to the intentions of the enemy.

Colonel Dutton, chief of staff, who is a skillful engineer, will proceed on the Collyer to join you and give you all the assistance in his power. Keep the general fully advised by every opportunity how things are going on—everything that transpires, not only of affairs near you, but derive all information of every character possible. Send down all prisoners, refugees, &c., to the general by the first boat that comes down.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. D. OUTWATER,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. WESSELLS,
*Sub-district of the Albemarle:*

GENERAL: The commanding general has information that a combined attack is contemplated by the enemy on the different posts of this command. General Corse, with five Virginia regiments, came down last night within a few miles of our picket-line with the intention, as near as it can be ascertained, of drawing troops from Plymouth and Little Washington to this place, and also to prevent any re-enforcements leaving here for you or General Harland. The deserters further state that General Pickett is to attack Little Washington to-morrow (Tuesday). The general has sent this evening, per steamers Pilot Boy and Patuxent, about 600 men to Washington.

General Butler has just withdrawn from here 1,200 of our best troops, including two light batteries. In view of this, the general does not think it wise or prudent to detach any more men from here until he has some definite information where the enemy intend to strike. The general wishes you to keep him advised of all information you can acquire. Commander Davenport has ordered the gun-boat Tacony to Washington.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. D. OUTWATER,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 18, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
*Commanding Sub-district of New Berne:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that he wishes your pickets and outpost to listen to-morrow morning for guns from the direction of Washington, N. C., as it is more than

probable that firing may be heard in that vicinity by that time. He also wishes you to perfect your arrangements for arming the citizens and contrabands of New Berne in case it becomes necessary to call upon them for military duty of any kind.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Before ordering General Pope to send any troops from his department I was waiting to see his reasons for retaining the number he has. My own opinion has been that a small force of cavalry, with but very little infantry, was all that he required. I would advise that he be ordered to send all the infantry he can possibly spare to Washington at once.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 19, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

General Devens has been ordered to go through the Northern and Eastern States to collect together recruits and send them to regiments and depots. The War Department thinks his services there almost indispensable for the next week or two. Men are still recruiting at the rate of 1,000 per day. Please see if General Meade cannot spare him a little longer. General Seymour is relieved from the Department of the South. Where shall I send him?

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

---

CULPEPER, *April* 19, 1864. (Received 7.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Meade did not apply for General Devens. The latter applied for orders, and Meade stating that he was a good officer I asked to have him sent to the Army of the Potomac. Keep General Devens where he is so long as his services are needed. Order General Seymour some place to await orders unless he can be profitably placed on such duty as General Devens is now doing.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 19, 1864.

To familiarize the men in the use of their arms an additional expenditure of 10 rounds of small-arm ammunition per man is hereby authorized. Corps commanders will see that immediate measures

are taken by subordinate officers to carry out the order. Every man should be made to load and fire his musket under the personal supervision of a company officer. It is believed there are men in this army who have been in numerous actions without ever firing their guns, and it is known that muskets taken on the battle-fields have been found filled nearly to the muzzle with cartridges. The commanding general cannot impress too earnestly on all officers and men the necessity of preparing themselves for the contingencies of battle.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 19, 1864.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

The enemy are throwing up new heavy works in the vicinity of Raccoon Ford. No movements. All quiet.

FULLER.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 19, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Captain MERRILL:

All quiet. The enemy still employed on the works to the right of Somerville Ford.

McCLOSKEY.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*Army of the Potomac, April* 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

I have the honor to forward you a copy of a dispatch received from the commanding officer of the picket reserve near Grove Church.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

Major-General Sheridan being away at Stevensburg this morning, I take the liberty of forwarding the dispatch.

[Inclosure.]

PICKET RESERVE, 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS,
*Near Grove Church, April* 18, 1864.

Capt. L. SIEBERT,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Third Div., Cav. Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that all remains quiet on my line. Last night a few bushwhackers tried to work their way up to some of my posts, but they were discovered in time and fired

upon. Two dismounted patrols of an officer and 15 men each went on a scout at 1 o'clock this a. m. They were dismounted and searched the country in the direction of the Spotted Tavern and Ellis' Ford; they also searched some of the houses in their travels without discovering anything. A patrol of the Tenth (or a detachment) New York Cavalry, stationed at Morrisville, was attacked yesterday about noon; 1 man killed, another was severely and dangerously wounded. This was in the direction of Ellis' Ford. Captain Mitchell is now on a scout with 25 men in the direction of Falmouth.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

OTTO HARHAUS,

*Colonel Second New York Cav, Comdg. Picket Post.*

I send this with a patrol to Kelly's Ford, where I shall station two men to carry dispatches, provided the river can be crossed.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I respectfully request that the very long picket-line of the First and Third Divisions of this corps be at once diminished, so as to give rest to the horses and enable them to recuperate. The report of the inspector-general shows the horses of these divisions to be in a deplorable condition, caused by their laborious picket duty and inadequacy of long forage. If the infantry picket-line could be advanced and a few cavalrymen placed at the fords of the Rapidan, would it not give sufficient security? The cavalry picket-line from near Rapidan Station around to where it terminates at Davis' Mountain might be diminished by a good system of patrolling and outposts at prominent points on the line. It is better to occasionally lose a cavalryman scouting or on outpost duty than to render so many horses so unserviceable by their hard labor.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: Yesterday I carefully examined the division of Brigadier-General Gregg. I found the men well clothed, their camps in good condition. A deficiency in the arms and equipments from the inability of the Ordnance Bureau to furnish, but this deficiency will probably soon be supplied. The horses I found to be in poor condition, overworked, and inadequately supplied with long forage. They are not in a condition for active service and can be of but little service in the approaching campaign, unless they are promptly rested and fed. The picket-line of this division is 18 miles long, and cannot with safety to the command be dismounted.

I respectfully recommend that the division be drawn in to Three-Mile Station, which will make the picket-line short, or that a brigade of infantry be sent to Warrenton, in which case a few cavalry outposts on the prominent points will suffice for the necessary security. There are also 1,800 men in this division, nearly all equipped, but without horses. Most of the dismounted men are the best soldiers of the division.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

General Gregg can find no enemy in Jefferson or that section of country. There has not been a single rebel scout at Jefferson for over a week past.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

The enemy reported at Jefferson turns out to have been only 13, and they were only seen by an old woman. Do not waste any more horse-flesh on them.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 19, 1864—12.30 a. m.
(Received 11.23 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

The following telegram in answer to my inquiries is just received from General Crook:

CHARLESTON, W. VA., *April* 18, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

I don't know whether I can accomplish all General Grant expects or not by my acting independently, as you suggest, but will do my best. Success depends much on the weather. Roads are most impassable now. Send all to this point, infantry by water and cavalry by land, from Parkersburg. I want 3,500 infantry effective, if you can send them. I have sufficient artillery. The demonstration toward Huntsville would do me no good unless the column could reach Covington. Can you send me 100 yards of pontoon? I have none. Send all the horses and mules you can at once by water. Your telegram was delayed, my line being down. I have plenty of provisions here; you need send none.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

This is essentially in conformity with the telegrams which I have sent to you without awaiting the answer of General Crook, because I thought it would take too long to receive his answer. The pontoons are being constructed, and will be sent to him.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CULPEPER, *April* 19, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland, Md.:*

I approve your plan of operations. Make your preparations for executing it with all dispatch.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 19, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 10.25 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper Court-House, Va.:*

Your answer to my telegram and that of Colonel Babcock just received. I will act accordingly. Colonel Babcock will leave to-night.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 15. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *In Field, Culpeper C. H., Va., April* 19, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved, at his own request, from duty in the Department of West Virginia, and will repair to Wheeling, W. Va., and there await further orders.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., April* 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL:

GENERAL: I have information by telegram from Point of Rocks that Means' cavalry were attacked by guerrillas between Waterford, Loudoun County, and the river. In reply to the commanding officer at Point of Rocks, asking if he should assist Means' cavalry, I replied in the affirmative, but advised him to be very cautious. Particulars not received yet.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Cumberland, April* 19, 1864.

General MAX WEBER:

I do not know why Captain Means' men have crossed the river to Waterford. Three companies of Captain Means are under orders to Charleston, Kanawha, and Captain Means has been dismissed from the service for not obeying orders. Please report again.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 19, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of West Virginia:*

Captain Means' company and the infantry supports have returned to Point of Rocks, with no casualties on our side. They killed one rebel and took one prisoner. Means crossed the river into Virginia by the order of the Secretary of War.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Your dispatch in regard to the Sixth Michigan Cavalry and the withdrawal of troops from your front is received. The Sixth Michigan is ordered to the Army of the Potomac, and must be sent there as soon as you receive written orders, which must now have reached you. I will telegraph to Colonel Taylor to take the necessary measures to protect your front or to send you some cavalry.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 19, 1864.
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

I leave at 2.40 for the west. Col. R. F. Taylor remains in command.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 19, 1864.

General F. SIGEL:

I have been directed to withdraw my cavalry from Halltown and Kearneysville.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel.*

BEVERLY, *April* 19, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL, *Cumberland:*

Two deserters just in from Franklin, of Imboden's brigade. They report Longstreet and corps near Richmond. After a battle in East Virginia, Imboden intends making a raid in this county with 10,000 men. Staunton pike heavily blockaded in five places 50 miles from here. Food and forage very scarce. The deserters seem honest and intelligent.

A. MOOR,
*Colonel.*

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CULPEPER, *April* 19, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Annapolis, Md.:*

Divert all troops you may now have on the way to Annapolis or yet to start, to Alexandria, and send a general there to take charge of them. Crittenden ranking Parke makes no difference. Under no circumstances would he command the corps.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CULPEPER, *April* 19, 1864. (Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Annapolis, Md.:*

Commence moving your troops, according to the directions you have received, on the 23d instant.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS, *Annapolis, Md., April* 19, 1864.

The Ninth Army Corps will be organized into four divisions, to be commanded as follows:

First Division, Major-General Crittenden.
Second Division, Major-General Parke.
Third Division, Brigadier-General Willcox.
Fourth Division (colored), Brigadier-General Ferrero.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

LEWIS RICHMOND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 19, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General DIX, *New York:*

Cannot the Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery be spared from your department? Please send every available officer in your department to clean out depots and recruiting stations of men ready to be sent to the field, and to telegraph daily to the Adjutant-General of the Army any unnecessary delays or neglects of duty. It is reported that recruits and furloughed men are kept back, especially in New York. It is of vital importance that every man be sent to his regiment with dispatch.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major General, Chief of Staff.*

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 19, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 12 midnight.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

When General Wilson was in charge of Cavalry Bureau I required for 2,000 cavalry horses. He requested me to send inspectors, which I did thirty days since. I have not received a single horse. It is all-important that I should have them. My cavalry has important work to do. Will you not please make an extra effort to furnish me at least 1,000 forthwith? My inspectors have been sent away from Washington to inspect horses, I know not where.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

(Copy to General Grant, April 20.)

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 19, 1864—12 m.
(Received 1 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

Several thousand recruits intended for regiments in my command are now at camps for recruits in the States of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania. There are more in New York than the other States. Will you please devise some means by which they can be sent to their regiments at once? It is all-important to me that I should have them. I am satisfied that there is a great negligence and want of energy on the part of officers in charge of the camps. The recruits for General Gillmore's command should be hurried here as fast as possible.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

---

CULPEPER, *April* 19, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 8.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

General Peck should be able to hold Plymouth with the force he has. You, however, will have to be the judge of what is best to do. The moment you move from Fort Monroe all rebel forces threatening along the North Carolina coast will be withdrawn, and you can then bring away surplus troops to re-enforce your moving army.*

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 19, 1864—10.30 a. m.
(Received 11.10 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Gillmore informs me that owing to the affair in Florida he is short of artillery for his own department. Can there not be sent me Captain Kusserow's New York battery, now at Harper's Ferry, and also the Fourth New Jersey, now at Camp Barry?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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*This in answer to Butler's dispatch of 11 a. m., p. 278.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., *April* 19, 1864.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
*Quartermaster-General:*

Side-wheel boats: John A. Warner (600 tons), 1,200 men; Matilda (700 tons), 1,500 men; George Weems (449 tons), 800 men; Highland Light (291 tons), 600 men; Pioneer (256 tons), 500 men; Planter (400 tons), 800 men; Rockland (300 tons), 350 men; Keyport (350 tons), 350 men; Favorite (350 tons), 300 men; Tallaca (400 tons), 600 men; Champion (309 tons), 600 men; Kent (281 tons), 400 men; Winona (600 tons), 1,000 men; Wyoming (400 tons), 500 men; Portsmouth (400 tons), 500 men; Jefferson (400 tons), 500 men; Kingston (400 tons), 500 men.

Propellers: Rebecca Barton (350 tons), 400 men; Mayflower (220 tons), 350 men; a sea steamer (140 tons), 200 men; Leader (200 tons), 200 men; Wallace (190 tons), 200 men; Cahill (195 tons), 200 men; New York (200 tons), 350 men; Brayerly (170 tons), 200 men; Mayflower (200 tons), 300 men; Beverly (190 tons), 200 men; Emma (185 tons), 200 men.

Steam-tugs: Hutchins, Delaney, Palmer, Tempest, Ajax, Mary Freeman, Vatterlin, Bishop; 50 canal barges, average capacity, 150 men.

Should judge I had comfortable transportation for 20,000 men, and steam-tugs sufficient for towing barges. If required I can obtain more propellers and barges. From this date all ordered to Fort Monroe. Unless otherwise ordered, will leave early to-morrow for New York.

GEO. D. WISE,
*Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 19, 1864.

Commander F. A. PARKER,
*Commanding Potomac Flotilla:*

SIR: I have the honor to forward you a copy of a dispatch received from the provost-marshal at Eastville, Va.:

EASTVILLE, *April* 18, 1864—12 p. m.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I am informed by a rebel mail-carrier, captured to-day, that guerrillas are preparing for a raid at some spot between the Piankatank and Saluda, Middlesex County. I presume this raid is intended for this shore, if on foot as represented. Further information leads me to believe the information correct.

FRANK J. WHITE,
*Major and Provost-Marshal.*

This dispatch is sent for your information and such action as you may think proper.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

A. F. PUFFER,
*Captain and Aide-de-Camp.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 109. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *Fort Monroe, Va., April* 19, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the troops and camps of instruction at Yorktown and Gloucester Point.

II. Brig. Gen. I. J. Wistar is hereby relieved from command at Yorktown, and will report to General Smith.

III. Brig. Gen. William T. H. Brooks, U. S. Volunteers, will report to Maj. Gen. William F. Smith for duty at Yorktown.

* * * * * * *

VI. Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer, U. S. Volunteers, will assume command of the District of North Carolina, relieving Maj. Gen. John J. Peck, U. S. Volunteers.

VII. Maj. Gen. John J. Peck is hereby relieved from the command of the District of North Carolina, and will report at these headquarters.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
*Comdg. Army and Dist. of N. C., New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to inform you, in view of your assuming command of the Army and District of North Carolina, and of the manifold difficulties lately arisen in the different departments, many of them, if allowed to remain in their present antagonistic position, clearly subversive of the interests of the Government, that it is his desire and wish for you to at once take steps to inaugurate a system that may, in your best judgment, be the most speedy and effective for the purpose of restoring harmony among the various officials, and a speedy return to the good will and co-operation that can alone render their labor effective.

Upon my representing your approval of the establishing of a general recruiting office for your department, he has appointed Major Kennedy as its head. Knowing your hearty indorsement of that gentleman for the position assigned him, the commanding general trusts that he may receive such instructions as will at once enable him to dispose of the questions heretofore existing between quartermaster's department and recruiting officers, which has tended to retard the progress of both parties.

In the provost-marshal's department he will, in addition to the officer you may select as the successor of Captain Denny, also appoint a competent assistant, whose sole duty it shall be to take charge of all matters pertaining to the proper administering of the affairs of the contrabands.

It is the desire of the commanding general that every exertion be made to assist and render effective the various recruiting stations through your department, and that the superintendent be particularly instructed to see that the families of recruits be promptly taken

care of, in accordance with previous orders. Should he suggest any change or modification of existing orders he will at once forward them, with your approval, to these headquarters.

It is the intention of the commanding general to establish a provost court in your department for the immediate disposition of all minor offenses. Should you have a suitable officer in your command for the position of provost judge you will please forward his name to these headquarters.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. SHAFFER,
*Captain and Aide-de-Camp.*

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APRIL 19, 1864.

Colonel RIPLEY:

Plymouth has been attacked. Keep your scouts out well on the roads to watch the enemy. Have a strong picket along the bank, so as to prevent any attempt on Macon. Hold the 400 colored men subject to your orders for defense temporarily. So distribute your men as to have all you can available for any service. Ask the naval commander to aid you in the protection of Morehead and other places.

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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APRIL 19, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN,
*Commanding Outposts, &c.:*

The news is that Plymouth has now been attacked. General Wessells writes that he has had some fighting and lost some men. New Berne may yet be the point to look out for.

PALMER,
*General.*

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CAMP PALMER, *April* 19, 1864.

Lieut. W. L. WHEATON,
*New Berne:*

Captain Horn has returned and reports that the attack on his party was made by six companies of the Third North Carolina Cavalry and three companies of the Thirty-ninth Virginia Infantry. Two pieces of artillery came up in two hours at 4 o'clock yesterday morning. They retired toward Kinston, where he thinks they have gone

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
*Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*April* 19, 1864—10.20 a. m.

General PALMER:

Telegram received. I think Little Washington is the real point the rebels aim at. General Hoke is at Tarborough. I have had scouting parties out all night. General Corse has gone back at

Kinston, and I am satisfied that the rebels expected an attack from us. New Berne will not be surprised from this point, and unless I am flanked from my extreme left I can hold a very large force for a long time.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 20, 1864. (Received 11.20 a. m.)

The PRESIDENT:

I have the honor to ask if power cannot be given me to commute sentences of death for the crime of desertion to discharge and imprisonment, with forfeiture of all pay due, at the Dry Tortugas, Fla., during the war, whenever I consider the case to require it.

If I can be empowered to do this, you will be spared a great deal of labor and the service will be benefited by the consequent speedy punishment of men whose cases do not, in my judgment, warrant the infliction of the death penalty.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, April* 20, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Your telegram of this date, addressed to the President, has been referred to this Department, and in answer thereto the following order has been issued:

*Ordered*, That in all cases of sentences of death by court-martial for the crime of desertion in the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding, is authorized and empowered to commute the sentence of death to imprisonment (with forfeiture of all pay due) in the Dry Tortugas Fort during the present war, or to make such other commutation of sentence in lieu of the sentence of death as in each case justice and the benefit of the service may in his judgment require.

By order of the President:

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

A copy of this order will also be transmitted to you by mail.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 20, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

Set engineers to building block-houses at all the bridges between Bull Run and the Rappahannock, both included. They should be put up with all rapidity.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April* 20, 1864.

I. General Orders, No. 100, of November 5, 1863, from these headquarters,* prescribing the maximum allowance of transportation, camp and garrison equipage for this army while in the field engaged in active operations, having been modified in some particulars, the order as modified is republished, and its provisions will be strictly conformed to, the following being now the established maximum allowance of transportation and camp equipage, viz:

1. For the headquarters of an army corps, 2 wagons or 8 pack-mules for baggage, &c.; 1 two-horse wagon, 1 two-horse spring wagon, and 10 extra saddle-horses for contingent wants; 1 wall-tent for the personal use and office of commanding general, 1 wall-tent for every 2 officers of his staff.

2. For the headquarters of a division, 1 wagon or 5 pack-mules for baggage, &c.; 1 two-horse wagon, 1 two-horse spring wagon, and 5 extra saddle-horses for contingent wants; 1 wall-tent for personal use and office of commanding general, 1 wall-tent for every 2 officers of his staff.

3. For the headquarters of a brigade, 1 wagon or 5 pack-mules for baggage, &c.; 1 two-horse spring wagon and 2 extra saddle-horses for contingent wants; 1 wall-tent for personal use and office of commanding general, 1 wall-tent for every 2 officers of his staff.

4. To every 3 company officers, when detached or serving without wagons, 1 pack-mule; to every 12 company officers, when detached, 1 wagon or 4 pack-mules; to every 2 staff officers, when not attached to any headquarters, 1 pack-mule; to every 10 staff officers serving similarly, 1 wagon or 4 pack-mules.

The above wagons and pack-mules will include transportation for all personal baggage, mess-chests, cooking utensils, desks, papers, &c. The weight of officers' baggage in the field, specified by Army Regulations, will be reduced so as to bring it within the foregoing schedule. All excess of transportation and camp and garrison equipage now with army corps, divisions, brigades, regiments, or batteries over the allowance herein prescribed will be immediately turned into the quartermaster's department.

5. Commissary stores and forage will be transported by the trains. When these are not convenient of access, and when troops act in detachments, the quartermaster's department will assign wagons or pack-mules for that purpose; but the baggage of officers or of troops or camp equipage will not be carried in the wagons or on the pack animals so assigned.

6. For each regiment of infantry or cavalry and battalion of heavy artillery, for baggage, camp equipage, &c., not to exceed 2 wagons, 3 wall-tents for field and staff, 1 shelter-tent for every other commissioned officer, and 1 shelter-tent for every 2 non-commissioned officers, soldiers, servants, and camp followers.

7. For each battery, for personal baggage, mess-chests, cooking utensils, desks, papers, &c., 1 wagon, 2 wall-tents for officers; shelter-tents, same allowance as for infantry and cavalry regiments.

8. For artillery ammunition trains, the number of wagons will be determined and assigned upon the following rules: Multiply the number of 12-pounder guns by 122 and divide by 112; multiply the number of rifled guns by 50 and divide by 140; multiply the num-

*See Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 420.

ber of 20-pounder guns by 2 ; multiply the number of 4½-inch guns by 2½ ; multiply the number of rifled guns in horse batteries by 100 and divide by 140. For the general supply train of reserve ammunition of 20 rounds to each gun in the army, to be kept habitually with the Artillery Reserve, the following formula will apply : Multiply the number of 12-pounder guns by 20 and divide by 112 ; multiply the number of rifled guns by 20 and divide by 140. To every 1,000 men, cavalry, infantry, and heavy artillery, for small-arm ammunition, 5 wagons ; for Artillery Reserve, for carrying fuses, primers, and powder, 2 wagons.

9. The supply trains will be as follows : To each 1,000 men, cavalry, infantry, and heavy artillery, for forage, subsistence, &c., 9 wagons, sufficient to carry ten days' supply, one day's salt meat, net weight, included. To each cavalry division, exclusively for forage, 50 wagons ; to each battery, for its proportion of subsistence, forage, &c., 3 wagons ; to each horse battery, for the same purpose, 4 wagons ; to every 25 wagons of the artillery ammunition train, 5 wagons additional, for forage of animals of ammunition and additional wagons, baggage, camp equipage, and subsistence of wagon-masters and teamsters. Ammunition trains shall be laden with ammunition exclusively, so far as practicable. Baggage of drivers of wagons composing them will be carried in the additional wagons allowed for that purpose.

To each brigade of cavalry, infantry, and artillery, of not less than 1,500 men, for hospital supplies, 3 wagons ; for every 1,000 men additional, 1 wagon ; to each army corps, except the cavalry, for intrenching tools, 6 wagons ; to each army corps headquarters, for subsistence, forage, and other stores not provided for herein, 3 wagons ; and to each division headquarters, 2 wagons ; to each brigade headquarters, 1 wagon for similar purposes ; to each brigade of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, for commissary stores for sales to officers, 1 wagon ; for the ambulance train of each division, 2 wagons ; for the ambulance train of an independent command less than a division, batteries excepted, 1 wagon ; to each division of cavalry and infantry, for armorer's tools, parts of muskets, extra arms, and accouterments, 1 wagon. It is expected that each ambulance and each wagon, except those of the artillery ammunition train, will carry the necessary forage for its own team.

10. If corps, division, and brigade commanders take their guards or escorts from commands already furnished with the full allowance of transportation a corresponding amount should be taken with them to headquarters ; but if they have not been provided for at all, then a proper number of wagons will be transferred by the depot quartermaster, on the requisition of the chief quartermaster, certified to and approved by the commanding general. As a rule, neither quartermaster nor commissary sergeants will be allowed to ride public horses.

11. It has been decided that there is no advantage to the service, commensurate with the expense, in keeping up regularly organized pack trains, with mules independent of the wagons. Pack-saddles, not to exceed 400 to a corps, will be carried in the wagons of the trains. When it becomes necessary to pack officers' baggage, rations, or ammunition, for short distances, over rough roads and broken country, pack trains will be made up temporarily by taking the mules from the wagons, not to exceed 2 to any one wagon. There

will be allowed to each corps 50 extra mules, to supply losses on marches and for use in packing.

III. The following modification of paragraph 1121, Revised Army Regulations, approved by the War Department, General-in-Chief, Quartermaster-General, and the general commanding, is hereby established, so far as relates to this army, and will be observed until otherwise ordered: The maximum allowance for forage per day will be, for horses, 10 pounds hay and 14 pounds grain; for mules, 10 pounds hay and 11 pounds grain; and when short forage only can be procured, 15 pounds of grain for horses and 13 pounds of grain for mules will be issued as the daily ration. For a campaign the above order will not apply. The wagons will carry only the marching ration (10 pounds average to each animal per day). This increased allowance of grain is intended to be fed only when the animals are at rest, after long marches, and when the allowance of hay cannot be procured.

IV. Private property shall not be taken except when required for the public service, and then only on the written order of the general commanding the army, a general commanding a corps, or other independent commander. A copy of the order and receipt for the property taken must be left with the owner thereof, and a report of all property captured from the enemy or seized for the public service will be made monthly to the chief of the department, at these headquarters, to which it appertains.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
*Camp near Brandy Station, April 20, 1864.*

General M. C. MEIGS,
*Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose copies of two orders issued from these headquarters for your information. The special order is a confidential one.*

The spring wagons are on hand, and, by existing orders, one for the transportation of paymasters, their clerks, funds, and other necessary contingent wants. There is a great scarcity of hay, but we have about ten days' grain on hand.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RUFUS INGALLS,
*Brigadier-General, Chief Quartermaster.*

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 111. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April 20, 1864.*

The following instructions respecting the supplies to be provided for the approaching campaign are published for the guidance of corps and other independent commanders and the chiefs of the staff departments concerned:

1. Paragraph 2 of General Orders, No. 13, of March 30, 1864, from these headquarters, is so far modified as to direct that 150 rounds of

*The other was General Orders, No. 20. See p. 919.

small-arm ammunition per man be kept constantly on hand. Fifty rounds will be carried on the person, 40 rounds of which will be in the boxes; the remaining 10 rounds will not be issued until marching orders are received. One hundred rounds per man will be carried in the supply trains.

2. Three days' full rations will be kept in the haversacks, and three days' rations of bread, coffee, sugar, and salt in the knapsacks. Ten days' small rations and one day's salt meat will be carried in the supply trains. Thirteen days' beef on the hoof will be taken. The three days' small rations to be carried in the knapsacks will not be issued until marching orders are received. They will, however, be kept on hand ready for issue.

3. Ten days' forage will be taken in the supply trains and other wagons.

4. All commanders are notified that the rations must be made to last the full time for which they are issued. No new issues will be authorized under any pretext whatever until the expiration of the time for which the original issues were made.

5. Corps and other independent commanders will issue the most stringent instructions to prevent this order being made public or placed where newspaper correspondents can have access to it. Any officer convicted of allowing it to pass out of his hands will be severely punished.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
*Commanding Artillery, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: I have been instructed to organize the siege train as projected by yourself, my regiment (First Connecticut Heavy Artillery) being detailed. Might it not be well to add some eight or ten 8-inch howitzers, either as an addition or perhaps in lieu of some of the mortars? Comstock advised me to write to you about this, and also to suggest that my present brigade (First and Second Connecticut) be both ordered on the duty. My regiment is now full, but in a month will lose 400 men by expiration of time of service. The Second Connecticut is commanded by Colonel Kellogg, a major in the First on the Peninsula, and such an arrangement would be highly desirable. He has about 1,700 men. I suppose no orders are at present required to effect this, but if it meets your approval when the time comes I shall be much pleased. My address is Engineer Bureau, War Department, Washington.

Your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
*Colonel First Connecticut Heavy Artillery.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Captain MERRILL:

Column of infantry, 1,000 strong, without wagons, passed Somerville Ford at 9 o'clock, going by river road toward Rapidan Station. Enemy continue digging on Clark's Mountain. All quiet.

PAINE.

STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 20, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Captain MERRILL:

All quiet. The enemy are at work on the heights, directly in rear of Raccoon Ford, extending the intrenchments heretofore reported.

TAYLOR.

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 20, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

Enemy has broken ground for four new batteries on the heights little above Raccoon Ford; also is strengthening intrenchments behind Somerville Ford, at the base of Clark's Mountain. All quiet. No change in camps.

TAYLOR.

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 20, 1864.

Captain MERRILL:

Enemy are busy enlarging new work near Raccoon Ford. All quiet.

FULLER.

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 20, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

The enemy are pushing their works with vigor to-day. The works under construction at Raccoon Ford are intrenchments or rifle-pits instead of batteries as reported this a. m. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

I want you to concentrate your command at Three-Mile Station, on the Warrenton railroad, as soon as possible. Place your camps so as to have as little picket duty to perform as possible.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

General Meade authorizes me to withdraw the vedettes of cavalry along the Rapidan River, substituting small detachments at the different fords. You will accordingly make the disposition. Detach-

ments at the fords should be placed so as to prevent their capture by the enemy. Detachments can now be relieved at all the fords. Please send me the strength of the cavalry at the fords. Fords must be closely watched.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 20, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

It will take more men to substitute small detachments at the fords than we have there now, and I presume your desire is to reduce the pickets of this command, it being smaller since Custer left. The river is full of blind fords and requires all the vedettes we now have watching it to insure safety; besides, the infantry are too far in the rear to render any assistance whatever, and we must rely on vedettes to give timely intimation to our outposts. We have 210 men on picket from Second Brigade, and I do not think this force could be weakened by us, unless the infantry advance, without great danger. I will be over to see you on the subject early to-morrow; in the mean time will not change.

T. M. BRYAN, JR.,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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PICKET RESERVE,
*Near Grove Church, April* 20, 1864.

Capt. L. SIEBERT,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Third Div., Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that all remains quiet on my lines, and that we have not been disturbed. The patrols which I have sent out during the day and night have failed to discover anything suspicious. We have been informed that the Fredericksburg railroad has been destroyed, and that the last rail has been taken off.

Very respectfully, yours,

OTTO HARHAUS,
*Col. Second New York Cavalry, Comdg. Picket Post.*

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HDQRS. PA. RESERVES, THIRD DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS,
*April* 20, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FREDERICK T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to inclose statement* of Captain Allen, Company G, Sixth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserves, and respectfully request that a decision of the War Department as to the time of the muster out of the men of this division may be had, in order that the question may be finally disposed of. In addition to

* Did not accompany this communication.

the 2 men mentioned in Captain Allen's statement, 5 other men of the same regiment, whose three years from date of enrollment have expired to-day, refuse to do duty. These men are all in arrest, and will be tried for mutiny if it is decided that they are not entitled to a discharge, which they claim for the following reasons: That the time of their comrades who have re-enlisted as veterans was calculated from the date of enrollment, otherwise many would not have been eligible; that the Pension Bureau, in granting pensions to those of the division who have been disabled, has calculated the time from date of enrollment, otherwise numbers of men who have received pensions would not be entitled to receive such, not having served two years; that their comrades transferred to the regular service, under orders at Berlin in the fall of 1862, have been discharged, three years having elapsed from date of enrollment; that three years have elapsed since the date of enrollment in the caption of one of the columns of their original muster-roll, and consequently they are entitled to their discharge under paragraph 14 of "instructions for making muster-rolls, &c.," issued by the War Department November 20, 1863.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. McCANDLESS,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 24, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the action of the War Department.

The Pennsylvania Reserves are a peculiar organization, having been regularly mustered into the service of the State of Pennsylvania, and afterward transferred to the United States. One of the regiments, First Pennsylvania Rifles, were never mustered into the U. S. service, but have been held on their muster into the State service, which provided for their transfer to the United States.

My experience is decided that it is inexpedient and impolitic to retain men beyond the period which they honestly believe they are entitled to a discharge, and I would therefore recommend the Reserves be discharged from the date of enrollment or muster into the State service. It is of the utmost importance that a speedy decision thereon be made, as there are symptoms of disorder and mutiny appearing in this command. I beg to be advised of the decision by telegraph.

GEO. G. MEADE.

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Washington, D. C., April* 20, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR:

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that the provisional regiment organized from Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery be sent to Alexandria, to relieve troops now there from Army of the Potomac, which will be sent to their proper commands.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 20, 1864.
(Received 10.10 a. m., 21st.)

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report all quiet. The scouting parties sent out under command of Colonels Lowell and Grimshaw have returned. Colonel Lowell captured 11 prisoners and lost 1 man killed and 3 slightly wounded in a skirmish at Leesburg. Will report more fully to-morrow.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
*Annapolis, Md., April* 20, 1864.

Col. S. G. GRIFFIN,
*Comdg. Second Brig., Second Div., Ninth Army Corps:*

COLONEL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding division to inform you that the following-named regiments have been assigned to your command, and their commanding officers ordered to report to you for orders: Sixth New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, Ninth New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, Thirty-first Maine Volunteer Infantry, Thirty-second Maine Volunteer Infantry, Seventeenth Vermont Volunteer Infantry.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. WRIGHT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 17. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 20, 1864.

The following authorities from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, are republished for the information of all concerned:

* * * Every department and army commander will cause to be transferred, as speedily as possible, to the nearest naval station named in General Orders, No. 91, all enlisted men who desire to enlist in the Navy, and who fulfill the conditions required in General Orders, No. 91, without regard to the restriction in said orders as to reduction of regiments and companies below the minimum organization, which restriction is removed.—Paragraph 2, General Orders, 123, current series, War Department.

* * * The discharge and final statements for pay for all men forwarded to naval stations for enlistment in the Navy in obedience to General Orders, Nos. 91 and 123, should be made out by the proper officers, and put in the hands of the officer who conducts the men to the naval station. The Paymaster-General will designate an officer of his department, who will pay, at each naval station, all the transferred men who may be accepted by the naval authorities, everything due them from the Army up to the date of their discharge by transfer to the Navy. The discharge papers of such men as are sent back to their companies because they are not accepted by the Navy will be canceled.—Circular, No. 32, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, April 4, 1864.

In order that the provisions of the foregoing may be carried into effect, commanding officers of divisions and separate brigades will respectively designate an officer to whom shall be addressed all appli-

cations, from enlisted men of their commands, for transfer to the Navy, and who will examine and determine from them, according to the qualifications of the applicants as prescribed by General Orders, No. 91, War Department, current series, what men are proper subjects for transfer.

As fast as selections are made division and separate brigade commanders will cause the men to be sent, under suitable conduct, with descriptive lists and accounts of pay and clothing, to Baltimore, Md., where they will be turned over to the naval commandant at that station. Daily reports by telegraph of the number of men thus transferred will be made to these headquarters.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 20, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

I have yet received no written orders relating to the Sixth Michigan Cavalry; expect them next train. Last night at 10 o'clock Captain Deane, commanding company of Sixth Michigan, sent me word that, having been left alone on the line with 60 men by the withdrawal of Colonel Taylor's men, he had retired to Halltown and wished orders. I ordered him to withdraw to a point near Bolivar Heights, throw out pickets, and wait for orders. He is now there. This leaves the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad much exposed, and almost at the mercy of the rebels.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Webster, W. Va., April* 20, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state, for the information of the commanding general, that his telegrams to me regarding movements of my troops, dated the 19th instant, were not delivered to me by the telegraph operator until twenty minutes before 10 a. m. to-day. I have sent you a telegram to-day to the same effect as this communication, which, if you do not receive, I should like to be informed of.

I am, captain, very respectfully,

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF W. VA.,
*Webster, W. Va., April* 20, 1864.

Capt. THAYER MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of W. Va., Cumberland, Md.:*

CAPTAIN: General Ord left without giving me any definite and full instructions in regard to the organization of my command, and without directing me how to act. Will you have the kindness to

furnish me with copies of such orders and instructions as it may be necessary for me to know, in order to have my command properly in readiness for the duty required of it? I have no orders relative to the amount of transportation allowed to the regiments and batteries. I am not informed as to organization of the supply trains. I have no definite orders in regard to the organization of the pioneer and engineer corps. I do not like to give any orders affecting these organizations, from fear of interfering with some orders that may have been already given from department headquarters, and with which I am not acquainted.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 20, 1864.

General AVERELL:

We cannot make any change in regard to the First Virginia and Fourteenth Pennsylvania, as this would defer the movement and would be contrary to my proposition to General Grant. I am very sorry, and would like to have you and your cavalry at Martinsburg, but under the present circumstances I cannot do what pleases me best. Please telegraph to me from all your stations.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 20, 1864.
(Received 1.40 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

I am just notified by railroad agent that transportation for the cavalry and an infantry regiment is ready at Webster and Clarksburg. Tell General Averell to make his arrangements and to order what cavalry he wants to embark at Clarksburg.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL:

General Grant has ordered other disposition. Please take the first train eastward to-day, and I shall take the first train westward to meet you at Oakland. Acknowledge receipt.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 20, 1864.

General AVERELL:

We would gain no time by meeting at Oakland. I will go to Grafton or you come up, to be here at 10 a. m. Please answer what you prefer.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

GRAFTON, *April* 20, 1864.

Major-General STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*
I will wait at Grafton.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

GRAFTON, *April* 20, 1864.
(Received 1.15 a. m., 21st.)

Maj. Gen. JULIUS STAHEL:
Here.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GRAFTON, VA., *April* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL,
*Grafton, Va.:*

You will please order the First Virginia and Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry to proceed without delay by railroad to Parkersburg, and thence by land to Charleston, Va., to report to Brigadier-General Crook. The detachments now at Webster and Clarksburg of the First New York Veterans, First New York (Lincoln), and Twenty-first New York Cavalry, you will order back to Martinsburg, Va., as soon as transportation can be furnished; if General Crook desires Ewing's battery you will send it to him.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 20, 1864.
(Received Cumberland, 12.20 a. m., 21st.)

Lieut. THOMAS H. WELLSTED,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Everything quiet along the line. Scouts not returned. Another scout starts to-morrow morning at 3 o'clock for Berryville and Snicker's Ferry. I have ordered 25 cavalry to Kearneysville and 25 men to Duffield's to operate with the infantry.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 20, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General POPE,
*Milwaukee, Wis.:*

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that you send all the infantry you can possibly spare to Washington at once.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 20, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

Please telegraph as soon as General Gillmore reports in person. The Cavalry Bureau cannot at present fill your requisitions and those of the Army of the Potomac. General Grant will decide which shall have the preference.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 20, 1864.
(Received 2 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Telegram received. General Gillmore writes he will not be able to report for some days. From the tenor of his letter and the necessary delays he speaks of I should judge it would be ten days. He did not receive his orders until the 11th instant.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

---

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 20, 1864—8.05 p. m.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Having sent two of my colored regiments to Point Lookout because of their fidelity as guards, that breaks up my division of colored troops. May I request to be sent me two colored regiments to supply their place? There are two in Maryland which perhaps might be spared.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 47. HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA, *Fort Monroe, Va., April* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby announced as chief of cavalry for this department, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

HENRY T. SCHROEDER,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 110. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *Fort Monroe, Va., April* 20, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VIII. Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks is hereby relieved from command at Point Lookout, Md., and will report to Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, at Yorktown.

Col. A. G. Draper, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, will assume command at Point Lookout.

IX. Brig. Gen. G. Marston will report to Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, at Yorktown.

* * * * * * *

XII. Brig. Gen. E. A. Wild is hereby relieved from the command of Norfolk and Portsmouth and will proceed to Camp Hamilton and assume command of all the troops there.

XIII. Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham will assume command of the U. S. forces at Norfolk and Portsmouth.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
*Chief of Cavalry, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: You having been by general orders assigned to duty as chief of cavalry in this department, it is the desire of the commanding general that you make your headquarters at or near Portsmouth, Va., and take immediate command of all the cavalry in that district, organize and discipline it, that it may be made as effective as possible, with a view to active operations. It will be necessary to use part of the cavalry for the present to guard and picket the line of Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal. You will apply at once to these headquarters for whatever is necessary to render your command effective.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
*Norfolk, Va.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to forward to you the inclosed order,* and to inform you at the same time that the order is not to apply to any of the troops now under the command of Brigadier-General Heckman, who is at present moving his forces to what is known as the inner lines of defense, which lines, with the heavy artillery stationed in the fortifications, are properly under your command. After properly dismantling the fortifications in his present front, General Heckman will leave Portsmouth with his infantry forces, leaving the cavalry under the independent command of Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Volunteers, chief of cavalry in this department, and the defenses, with all the

*See paragraph XIII, Special Orders, No. 110, p. 930.

other troops, will be under your command. This letter is written to prevent any conflict of jurisdiction until General Heckman is relieved, which will be in a few days, or as soon as he completes the new lines of defense.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. SCHROEDER,
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. A. HECKMAN,
*Getty's Station:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz, chief of cavalry for this department, has been ordered to you for the purpose of taking command of all the cavalry in your department. You will please render him all the information and assistance you can to enable him to make the cavalry force as efficient as possible. General Graham has been ordered to relieve General Wild and assume command of all the forces in Norfolk and Portsmouth. This will give him the command of the troops intended for defense within your inner line. He is, however, instructed not to interfere with any arrangements you have made nor with any troops that may be within his district that heretofore belonged to your command, the intention being to have you command all your own district and as much of Norfolk and Portsmouth as will enable you to complete the inner line of defenses. As soon as this is done you will be relieved with your infantry force and ordered to another field, leaving General Graham in command of his district, together with all the defenses, and General Kautz in command of the entire cavalry force.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 20, 1864.

Capt. J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inclose the available force now in and around this place. It will be seen by an examination of this paper that the only troops left for the defense of this place, exclusive of the troops on the outposts and the garrisoning of the different forts, are five companies of the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers, five companies of the First U. S. Colored Troops, and 250 men of Colonel Scroggs' regiment of colored troops, and the aggregate is only 3,860, or about one-third the number actually necessary to man the works and the line of intrenchments.

If Plymouth has already fallen into the hands of the enemy, the troops recently sent from here to re-enforce that place will doubtless be stopped, and they will make a respectable re-enforcement for Roanoke Island. At any rate, these re-enforcements will not probably be able to get into Plymouth.

This place is considered the most important of any place on the sounds of North Carolina, and a moderately respectable force should remain here to protect it. The force now here can hardly be called sufficient, and I certainly could not advise any further depletion here. Until the rebel ram at Plymouth is put hors de service all the troops that we might place on steamers for the relief of that place will be, in my opinion, useless.

*Present for duty.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 17th Massachusetts Volunteers, provost guard, aggregate | 169 |
| 19th Wisconsin Volunteers, aggregate | 288 |
| 5th Rhode Island Artillery, aggregate | 303 |
| 2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, aggregate | 177 |
| 1st U. S. Colored Troops (five companies), aggregate | 400 |
| 158th New York Volunteers (five companies), aggregate | 277 |
| 25th U. S. Colored Troops (Colonel Scroggs) | 250 |
| 99th New York Volunteers | 64 |
| 132d New York Volunteers, outposts | 436 |
| 158th New York Volunteers (five companies) | 249 |
| 12th New York Cavalry, outposts | 389 |
| 99th New York Volunteers, outposts | 60 |
| 92d New York Volunteers, at Forts Anderson and Chase | 251 |
| 3d New York Light Artillery | 537 |

Of the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, there is one company at Evans' Mills, one company at Brice's Creek, one company at Fort Gaston, one company at Fort Spinola, balance in camp.

Of the Fifth Rhode Island Artillery, one company at Fort Stevenson, one company at Fort Rowan, two companies at Fort Totten, one company at Fort Gaston, one company at Fort Amory, one company at Fort Spinola.

Of the Second Massachusetts Volunteer Artillery, two companies at Fort Totten.

Of the Ninety-second New York Volunteers, nine companies at Fort Anderson, one company at Battery Chase.

Of the Ninety-ninth New York Volunteers, at Fort Union, 30 men; at Fort Stevenson, one company.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 20, 1864.*

Colonel RIPLEY,
*Commanding Sub-district, &c., Morehead:*

We are threatened by the enemy and my forces are inadequate to guard the State of North Carolina. Plymouth is besieged and General Wessells needs help. Under such circumstances it is my duty to take any that comes to hand, until the crisis is passed. My order is his protection against all parties for any delay. In all probability one, two, or three days' detention will suffice. I had supposed that Colonel Scroggs would gladly come to the rescue of the cause of the country. If he declines you will place him in arrest and send the next officer in rank with the command to New Berne for temporary duty.

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*April* 20, 1864—9.25 a. m.

Major-General PECK,
*Commanding:*

I have two deserters from the Twenty-ninth Virginia; they confirm what the others said. Little Washington and Plymouth are to be taken, after which New Berne; but I am satisfied that six days' subsistence is all they have. General Corse has gone back to Kinston. I am surmising that he will move on me as the work at other points progresses. I am seeking all the information I can, and will transmit.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS, *April* 20, 1864.

General PALMER,
*Commanding:*

I have the honor to acknowledge your telegram. I differ as to main attack, from certain dispositions of the rebel pickets on my front. I am now making arrangements to ascertain their movements, of which I will advise you.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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NEW YORK, *April* 21, 1864.
(Received 4.10 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

About 2,800 troops can be sent on at once, and this does not include recruits, the number of which I will ascertain this evening. The number of old troops to be sent can be increased if authority be given to call one or two selected regiments of State militia into the service for duty as guards, escorts, &c. I think that this should be done. The troops leaving will be advised that an officer will meet them at Washington depot to give them their immediate destination. General Stannard will telegraph to you of each detachment.

ED. R. S. CANBY,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 21, 1864—2.40 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER ENGINEER BRIGADE:

I wrote you by mail on the 19th in reply to your dispatch of that date, and at the same time requested that you would use the cipher when replying by telegraph to confidential communications. Land transportation will not be needed. The Fifteenth Regiment will go with the bridging.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE D. RAMSAY,
*Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I have at your request examined the proposition of Capt. A. Schwartz, aide-de-camp, for the introduction into our service of short howitzers for vertical fire.

As to the necessity, there are but few occasions in which the light 12-pounder gun will not, by reducing the charge and giving high elevations, perform the service required of the short howitzers. The caliber being smaller, a greater number of guns must be brought into requisition and a greater number of shells used, but these field batteries can supply.

In the few cases in which the 12-pounder field gun cannot accomplish the work of the proposed howitzers, from the enemy occupying hollows or low grounds which cannot be seen, or where he is behind works or cover at short ranges which the shells of the gun cannot reach, a few Coehorn mortars would answer the purpose required. These mortars form a part of our system of artillery. Four of them, with their bed, can readily be carried in a common wagon; they have ranges from 500 to 1,000 yards, and eight or a dozen of them, with 50 or 60 rounds each of ammunition, would, with the 12-pounders of an army corps or of an army, answer all the purposes likely to be required.

I do not undervalue the howitzer for its special service, but I think the evil of adding to the number and variety of our kinds of guns and ammunition would outweigh the advantage.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*April* 21, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I would respectfully recommend that the signal station on Cedar Mountain be given up as a permanent station, and that the advanced brigade which I have be withdrawn to this vicinity. I can then strengthen my present main infantry picket-line so as to be able to resist the approach of any advanced body, and all the cavalry except about one regiment for watching the principal approaches can be withdrawn behind Culpeper. I feel sure that I can then hold my position against any force until re-enforced. If this disposition should tempt the enemy across the Rapidan it could but result to our advantage.

From personal observation I believe the station at Cedar Mountain cannot observe anything of importance to us better than the one at Pony Mountain.

Very respectfully, yours,

G. K. WARREN,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General TORBERT, *Comdg. First Cavalry Division:*

Change your picket-line in accordance with verbal instructions of to-day, and with this addition: Extend your left as far as to guard Morton's Ford, relieving the pickets of the Third Division to include that ford. This becomes necessary in order to equalize the picketing of the two divisions.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 21, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 9.50 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The troops are mostly on their way west and east, and the necessary arrangements are made at Parkersburg to ship the infantry. The cavalry and trains will go from Parkersburg by land to Charleston, where General Crook wishes that all troops from here should be sent. I sent him five infantry regiments and two regiments of cavalry under General Averell, which will make him about 10,000 effective men. As soon as the troops at Martinsburg are assembled for the greater part I will go there.

No information has been received in regard to important changes in the position of the enemy. Latest reports say that Early, with 4,000 to 5,000 men, is in the vicinity and north and south of Staunton. The forces of Breckinridge are reported at La Fayette Station, 10 miles west of New River bridge; are estimated at from 6,000 to 8,000 men. They are stationed from Lynchburg to Saltville, and in front of this line to Greenbrier River.

Deserters from Staunton say that General Early would take command in the valley. They also report that they were left behind by Longstreet in June, 1863, at Staunton, and that they received orders at the commencement of this month to return to Tennessee to join Hood's division. They say that Longstreet in person was at Richmond, but do not know whether his corps has gone East. It may be that Hood's division has been left at or near Cumberland Gap, as reported by General Crook, and that the other divisions have gone to join Lee's army.

General Crook, to whom I sent the report of Breckinridge, says that this report is very correct as far as the country in his front is concerned. Colonel Babcock knows about this report, of which I have sent a copy to the Adjutant-General at Washington.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CLARKSBURG, *April* 21, 1864.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

Will it not be possible to furnish transports for my command at Parkersburg? It would save two days' time and a hard march. I leave here at 7.30. The balance of the First Virginia go in the morning.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

CLARKSBURG, *April* 21, 1864.
(Received 10.30 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

Have been unable to procure sufficient transportation, owing to the use of the cars by General Sullivan's command. Cannot say how long I shall be delayed. Have used every endeavor since I received the order, but some of the cars promised to me have been taken by other commands. The Fourteenth Pennsylvania is gone, but 420 of the First Virginia and the wagons are yet to go.

WM. W. AVERELL.

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WEBSTER, *April* 21, 1864.
(Received 11 a. m.)

Major-General STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

Ewing's battery is mentioned in the general's telegram, but does not say where it is to be ordered. Please answer at Clarksburg.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. W. AVERELL:

All the transports required for the infantry; besides, your cavalry have to escort the train. Should, however, the train not be in readiness by the time your troops are ready to march, you will march on, but leave an escort of 100 men to go with the troops.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

General Crook is informed that you will take command of all his cavalry, including your two regiments, the First Virginia and Fourteenth Pennsylvania, in all eight regiments, and organize them into a division. This organization will be permanent. All other cavalry left in the central and eastern part of the State will be organized into another division. General Stahel misunderstood me in saying that the former organization will continue.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

General Crook telegraphs that he does not want Ewing's battery; you will order it to return to Martinsburg, as directed in General Stahel's telegram of yesterday.

By order of Major-General Stahel:

THOS. H. WILLSTED,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, *April* 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

Your dispatch just received. I now think that the demonstration on Saltville will have to be abandoned for want of sufficient mounted force. I will not have over 2,500 effective cavalry. I will not be able to procure many horses by purchase in so short a time. My plan of advance is the same as the one you have suggested. Is it still the intention for me to advance from here on the 23d instant? Neither the Eighth or Thirty-sixth Ohio Regiments have arrived here yet. Will the regiments you send here be fully prepared and supplied to take the field at once?

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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NEW YORK, *April* 21, 1864.
(Received 4 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

The Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery, 1,900 present; the Fourth [U. S.] Infantry, 329; the Eighth [U. S.] Infantry, 321; and the Tenth [U. S.] Infantry, 263, will leave for Washington as soon as the necessary changes in the harbor can be made, all by Saturday or Sunday. General Dix is of the opinion that a regiment of the city militia should be called into the service, to furnish guards and escorts for deserters and stragglers, &c. I think the authority should be given.

ED. R. S. CANBY,
*Brigadier-General, &c.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 21, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

One thousand horses will be sent to you in preference to all others. After that Army of the Potomac must next be supplied. The colored troops in Maryland have been assigned to General Burnside.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 21, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 7.20 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy:*

Official dispatches, principally military, from Roanoke Island and New Berne, state that at 3 a. m. on the 19th instant the rebels attacked Plymouth by land and with an iron-clad ram on the water. The Southfield was sunk and Miami disabled. Lieutenant-Commander Flusser was killed. The ram is below Plymouth and has possession of the river. Firing was heard at New Berne in the direction of Washington, N. C., and it was expected that Washington

was attacked. An attack by land and water upon New Berne is apprehended. The ram I hope may not be able to pass Croatan Sound. Her draught is unknown. The Miami has much more power than any wooden gun-boat that can be sent from here of suitable draught to enter the sound.

S. P. LEE,
*Acting Rear-Admiral.*

(Copy to General Grant.)

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 111. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *Fort Monroe, Va., April* 21, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry will report to Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, commanding at Yorktown.

II. So much of paragraph XVI, Special Orders, No. 108, as assigns Brig. Gen. Israel Vogdes to the command of the Tenth Army Corps is hereby revoked. General Vogdes will report to Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, commanding at Yorktown, for duty.

III. Brig. Gen. Hiram Burnham will report for duty to Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, commanding at Yorktown.

* * * * * * *

X. The Eighty-first, Ninety-sixth, Ninety-eighth, and One hundred and thirty-ninth New York Regiments will constitute the First Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, and the Tenth and Thirteenth New Hampshire, Eighth Connecticut, and One hundred and eighteenth New York Regiments will constitute the Second Brigade of the same division. Brig. Gen. W. T. H. Brooks is assigned to the command of the division.

The Ninth New Jersey, Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, and Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Regiments will form the First Brigade of the Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, and the Second and Twelfth New Hampshire, Eleventh Connecticut, and One hundred and forty-eighth New York Regiments the Second Brigade of the same division. The ranking officer present with the troops of that division will be in command until further orders.

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By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Fort Monroe, Va., April* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

You will assign General Wistar to a brigade. General Butler desires that General Heckman be assigned to command the First Brigade, Second Division, his present brigade. Please say to General Hinks that General Butler desires to see him in the morning.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS, *April* 21, 1864.

General PALMER,
*Commanding:*

My scout has just returned; no immediate advance is imminent; shall send out again by midnight. I am still under the impression that Little Washington will be attacked. Am also entertaining the idea that Kinston has at this moment not a corporal's guard.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 22, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

I have ordered two new regiments of cavalry at the depot to be equipped as infantry and turned over to General Burnside. After sending 1,000 horses to Butler it will not be possible to mount all of Burnside's cavalry in time. It has been suggested that a part of General Meade's cavalry, now here, could be equipped as infantry and sent to the front. As the transports for artillery and horses can also carry men, would it not be well to send the fragments of the Tenth Corps to Fort Monroe, without waiting further for General Gillmore's arrival?

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received 8.10 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

General Meade would prefer having his cavalry armed with carbines and sent to the front, to be used on foot to support cavalry, guard trains, &c. He has given orders to use all the dismounted cavalry in that way.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 22, 1864—7.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The commanding general desires that you will report to-morrow morning to what extent your command is prepared for a movement. Have you the supplies and means of transportation prescribed by existing orders?

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

(Sent also to commanding officers of the Fifth, Sixth, and Cavalry Corps.)

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
*April* 22, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The enemy is at work this morning on the heights directly in rear of Raccoon Ford, extending the line of intrenchments heretofore reported. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
*Captain and Signal Officer.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 22, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

The commanding general directs that you immediately draw the supplies of ammunition, subsistence, and forage required by existing orders to be kept on hand in your command. The knapsacks, rations, and ammunition to be carried on the person will not be issued till orders to move are received. I am instructed to impress on you the necessity of making every preparation for the receipt of marching orders. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 22, 1864.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Your dispatch of 8.45 p. m. is received.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 22, 1864.

*Commanding Officers First, Second, and Third Divisions Cavalry:*

I am instructed to impress on you the necessity of making every preparation for the receipt of marching orders. Prepare all the equipments of your mounted men, except carbines and pistols, for transportation to the rear. Organize your dismounted men into foot battalions. Send off all surplus baggage for which transportation cannot be furnished by existing orders.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

---

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 22, 1864.

Colonel BRYAN,
*Commanding Third Division:*

SIR: General Meade reports a movement of the enemy's cavalry, and indicates a general movement of the enemy. I want the detachment at Grove Church to watch the lower fords of the Rappahannock vigilantly, and quickly report any movement they may see or hear of.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 22, 1864.

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG,
*Commanding Second Brigade:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send to-day, and each day hereafter until further orders, a scouting party to Warrenton. These parties should not approach Warrenton by the main road, but by the right or left of it, so as to be well concealed. The scouting parties must be sufficiently strong to overcome any force which Mosby would probably collect at Warrenton. The instructions to be given the officer commanding such parties will be of such character as to restrain all plundering and marauding. The very greatest care will be taken to prevent the transmission of letters to and from citizens of Warrenton to parties within our lines through the scouting parties. Any officer commanding such a party and permitting any letters or other correspondence to be transmitted through his party will at once be arrested and charges preferred against him with view to his dismissal.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 22, 1864—9.30 p. m.
(Received 11.05 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Colonel Taylor, commanding cavalry force at Martinsburg, telegraphs the following:

Scouts from up the Shenandoah report a large force concentrating near Front Royal. No force this side of the river.

I believe that there is some truth in this statement, as refugees have arrived at Harper's Ferry who say that troops of the enemy were concentrating at Luray, and that Longstreet had arrived at Charlottesville. Former reports say that Rosser's brigade of cavalry, about 2,000 strong, was at Luray. It may be his troops who have moved to Front Royal. We have now five regiments of infantry at Martinsburg, with one battery and 700 cavalry. Two hundred cavalry and two batteries are on their way to that place. The troops for General Crook have commenced embarking on transports at Parkersburg this morning.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, W. Va., April* 22, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of West Virginia:*

I have information that Lieutenant Keyes' Independent Virginia Rangers have returned from a scout to Wheatland, Waterford, and Lovettsville, and report no rebels, and all quiet in that portion of Loudoun County. The Sixth Michigan Cavalry are still at Bolivar Heights, awaiting orders for the Potomac army.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

CUMBERLAND, *April* 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Webster:*

By telegram from Colonel Frost the general commanding is advised that General Averell has left Parkersburg for Charleston. It seems that the regiments are not arriving at Parkersburg as rapidly as was expected. In view of this, direct Colonel Frost to embark, if transportation is at hand, with the six companies of his regiment, turning over to the senior officer remaining the instructions he has heretofore received.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

GRAFTON, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received 9.40 a. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

A detachment of the Twenty-first New York Cavalry arrived at Webster several days ago, but the commanding officer has never reported to me. By order of General Sigel, I directed a detail to be made from them to guard Captain Brownell's cattle. I have given the order for Du Pont's battery to embark. It will get off in a few hours.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

GRAFTON, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received 9.45 a m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

Have the different detachments of cavalry in this vicinity been ordered to report to me? If so, please inform me what the different commands are, where they are, and who are the commanding officers.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

GRAFTON, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received 4.50 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

Lieutenant-Colonel Tibbits, Twenty-first New York Cavalry, is in command of the remaining cavalry forces at Clarksburg.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received Parkersburg, 2.08 p. m.)

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

Please inform me whether you have instructed the detachment of Twenty-first New York Cavalry to report to Brigadier-General Sullivan, as they have not yet reported. I have not information as to

who is left in command of the troops not accompanying you to Parkersburg, W. Va., or what time they will return to Martinsburg. Please inform me.

JULIUS STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

---

PARKERSBURG, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received 4.30 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

Colonel Tibbits has orders to return to Martinsburg with the detachments which did not accompany me, as soon as transportation is furnished.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

PARKERSBURG, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received 4.50 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL,
*Chief of Cavalry:*

Colonel Tibbits, Twenty-first New York Cavalry, was left in command of the detachments which did not come with me, at Clarksburg. The order was issued to him for the detachment of the Twenty-first New York to report to General Sullivan. I leave at 3.30 for Charleston. All necessary orders have been left for Colonel Schoonmaker.

WM. W. AVERELL,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 22, 1864.
(Received 9.10 p. m.)

Lieutenant WELLSTED,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Scouts from up the Shenandoah report a large force concentrating near Front Royal. No force this side of the river. All quiet on picket-lines.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

---

GRAFTON, *April* 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

I am instructed by Major-General Sigel to send you the following copy of his telegram to me, in which the necessary instructions are contained relative to the troops at Parkersburg and the military commander of the city:

CUMBERLAND, *April* 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN,
*Grafton:*

You will please appoint a colonel from one of the regiments sent to Parkersburg, to act as commander of that place and to guard it with his regiment. He will be assisted by one of his officers, who will act as provost-marshal. The commander so appointed of the city will take all necessary measures to keep the soldiers in good

order and discipline. He will make the necessary arrangements to receive the troops as soon as they arrive by the trains, and select proper places outside of the city where they have to stay until they can be transported by boat. He will approve the requisitions of the different regiments, except those of General Averell, if he should be present in the city. If such be the case the commander of the city will report to General Averell, and act under his orders as long as the general remains there. It is expected from such commander that he will do all in his power to protect the people against depredations, and to prevent the soldiers from straggling. He will make all reports to you by telegraph, and advise you of all important news, and such facts as demand your attention. The commander of the city with his regiment will remain until all the troops have embarked, and issue such orders as he thinks necessary. Four companies of the Eleventh Virginia Regiment will remain at Parkersburg, after he has embarked, and await there further orders. It is not expected that you will go to Charleston.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, *April* 22, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

In my telegram to you yesterday I stated that my plan of advance was the same as the one you suggested in your telegram of the 20th instant; that was, to occupy Lewisburg and make an attack on the railroad. If circumstances will justify when I get there I may move on Lynchburg, keeping a sharp lookout for my left flank. Shall remain in that country, doing all the damage I can, until it is prudent to retreat; or will be ready to take advantage of any success of our troops east. Do you want me to retreat in direction of Staunton or Lewisburg? I shall leave but few troops at Lewisburg, so as to take all the force in front I can.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, April* 22, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
*Annapolis, Md.:*

The following battalions of the United States Infantry have been ordered from New York Harbor to this city, to be assigned to your command: Four companies of Fourth U. S. Infantry, 329 men; eight companies of Eighth U. S. Infantry, 321 men, and four companies of Tenth U. S. Infantry, 263 men. These troops will arrive here Sunday or Monday next.

J. C. KELTON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

WASHINGTON, *April* 22, 1864—11.55 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
*Annapolis, Md.:*

Officers have been sent out to inspect all hospitals and to send to their regiments all well men, replacing them by convalescents where

possible, and where this cannot be done to telegraph to Colonel Hardie for special orders. I think everything possible is being done to get them out.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13. HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
*Annapolis, Md., April 22, 1864.*

This corps will commence moving from this place at 6 o'clock on the morning of the 23d, in the following order:

First, two battalions of the Third New Jersey Cavalry, then the four divisions in the order of their numbers, each followed by its train, and lastly one battalion of the Third New Jersey Cavalry.

Sufficient rear guard will be established by divisions and brigades to prevent all straggling, and the battalion of cavalry in the rear will act as rear guard to the entire command, and the commanding officer will see that all stragglers join their regiments.

The line of march will be indicated by the advance cavalry.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

LEWIS RICHMOND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April 22, 1864—11 p. m.*
(Received 9.40 a. m., 23d.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

General Butler reports that no iron-clads have yet gone to Fort Monroe. Will you please have inquiries made of the Secretary of the Navy if they are yet ready and will go soon?

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

CULPEPER, VA., *April 22, 1864—7.30 p. m.*
(Received 8.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

It will be just as well to send General Gillmore's men to Fort Monroe, as you suggest, whenever vessels are going that can take them. I will answer you as soon as I can inquire of General Meade about sending his cavalry equipped as infantry.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

CULPEPER, *April 22, 1864—noon.*
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe:*

Your dispatch received. You must not let movements of the enemy interrupt carrying out your programme in the coming campaign. It would be better to evacuate Washington and Plymouth than to have your whole force neutralized defending them.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

CULPEPER, VA., *April* 22, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 2.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Admiral Lee's dispatch to the Secretary of the Navy has been sent to me for my information. I do not know the situation of affairs in North Carolina well enough to give positive instructions, but it appears to me there is no use of our holding Washington or Plymouth. It would be better to have the forces necessary to garrison those two places added to General Butler's column of attack, which, if successful, will give back to us not only the coast, but probably most of the State. It may be that to evacuate now would compromise Union men who have shown their Unionism in full faith that the country would never be given up to the enemy. I wish you would inquire of General Butler if the two points above mentioned can be abandoned as well as not, and, if so, give the order.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 112. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *Fort Monroe, Va., April* 22, 1864.

* * * * * * *

X. Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks will assume the command of all the troops at Camp Hamilton.*

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By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *Gloucester Point, Va., April* 22, 1864.

In obedience to instructions from Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, the undersigned assumes temporary command of the Tenth Army Corps.

Capt. Adrian Terry, U. S. Volunteers, is announced as assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters.

ALFRED H. TERRY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
*Comdg. Dist. of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I have been informed of the disaster to the naval force. I have had no report either from General Peck or yourself of any land attack, nor that either of you had heard from Plymouth. I wonder at the delay. Your posts are all fully armed, garrisoned, munitioned, and provisioned, and I have but one instruction, and that is hold them at all hazards, as you know the military proposi-

* Paragraph XVII revokes paragraph VIII of Special Orders, No. 110. See p. 930.

tion is that a post is only worth what it costs the enemy to take it. Now, then, you can make your posts as valuable as you please. I see no indication that there is a sufficient force opposite to you to take either Plymouth, Washington, or New Berne. If there is sufficient force for that purpose, then the plan of the rebels is to evacuate Virginia and hold North Carolina, and they have either brought from the south or sent down a sufficient force for that purpose, so that any re-enforcements to your garrison merely would be substantially useless.

I will send down the army gun-boats for the purpose of attempting to open communication, and await further developments of the designs of the rebels.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 22, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HARLAND,
*Comdg. Sub-dist. of the Pamlico, Little Washington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that he is of the opinion that you will be attacked in a short time, and that you are certainly strong enough to stand against any land attack. However, should the ram come down and go up the Pamlico River she might cause you considerable trouble. In view of this you had better use every available man to strengthen your position as much as possible. You had better throw up a breast-work along the river to protect your command from a rear fire. Throwing up traverses at different points of the line would be of immense protection to you. You can make yourself much stronger by these measures. You must keep constantly on hand a large and fully adequate supply of ammunition, subsistence, and forage. If you are not well supplied, send a full list of what you need, and it will be furnished immediately.

Citizens coming into our lines from the other side of the Neuse River report heavy firing in your direction this morning. The wishes of the general are that at 10 o'clock every night you fire one heavy gun, then after an interval of about a minute fire two successive guns. By that he will know that you are all right. The signal may not be heard, but under the circumstances it is the best that can be done.

Communicate as often as practicable.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. D. OUTWATER,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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MOREHEAD CITY, *April 22*, 1864.

Major-General PECK:

Since the arrival of the news from Plymouth the remainder of the Second North Carolina Volunteers are much excited. I cannot place the least dependence on them for the defense of Beaufort or any

other place. They are utterly demoralized and will not fight. Indeed, they are already looking to the swamps for the protection they have so far failed of getting from our Government. I can do nothing with them except send them to Fort Macon, and I feel they will be worse than useless there for the defense of the place, taking up the place of the sailors I have there manning the heavy guns, in place of the 50 heavy artillerymen I have had to bring here to help do the guard and picket duty, and unable to man the heavy guns themselves. Can they not be sent to Fort Macon, out of harm's way? I believe they will inevitably, in case of a fight, become panic-stricken and have a bad effect on the rest of this slim command. If this is done I will try and defend Beaufort with sailors and citizens, white and black. Whatever is the final disposition made of them, I think I will send them to Fort Macon early to-morrow morning to prevent further desertion. In the mean time I await your instructions.

EDW. H. RIPLEY,
*Colonel.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 23, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 12.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Meade would perfer retaining his dismounted cavalry in Washington on duty to having them sent to the front before being mounted. He has now about 3,000 dismounted cavalry on duty in the field.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 23, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Army of the Potomac:*

Please telegraph to General Augur whether all your cavalry now in his department are to be armed with carbines and sent to the front, or if not all, what part.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 23, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

On consultation with General Sheridan, I am of the opinion any increase to our dismounted cavalry (now 3,000) would not be desirable. I would therefore suggest the dismounted men of this army now in Washington being retained there till they can be mounted, and not forwarded with carbines, as I last night recommended.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington City, April 23, 1864—8.40 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Much uneasiness and considerable excitement has been created in this city by discouraging stories of your army, reported, as upon your authority, by Governor Dennison and Mr. Garfield. They are said to quote you as representing the whole strength of your army that you can put into action as only 60,000 men; your cavalry only 7,000, and by these and similar statements have created considerable gloom in the public mind. I mention this to let you know the danger arising from unguarded conversations with visitors, and have prohibited any passes to members of Congress or any one else not connected with the service. You will please direct your provost-marshal to be an agent in discovering any unauthorized visitors, and to send them back immediately, reporting to this Department who grants passes and to whom, so that giving unauthorized passes may be punished. Visitors to your army state that morning reports of your force have been exhibited to them.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 23, 1864—11 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I regret that a private conversation held with two gentlemen holding the position of Governor Dennison and Mr. Garfield should have been misrepresented in the manner described by you in your telegram just received. I did mention to these gentlemen the difference between the number of men reported with an army and the number that could be brought into action, referring to the great number that in all armies are necessarily non-combatants from the nature of their duties. I also referred to the difficulty, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts of the Government to the contrary, of getting recruits into the field, and in reply to a query from Governor Dennison whether I had not received very large accessions from recruits I replied "No," and innocently gave the exact number received. I had no expectation that any use would be made of the information given except such as would tend to advance the public interests. The orders to the provost-marshal-general will be given as directed by you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Camp Near Brandy Station, April 23, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
*First Connecticut Heavy Artillery:*

COLONEL: I have received your letter of 20th instant. In my proposition for the organization of the siege train I included your two batteries, B and M, in the forty siege guns I asked for. These batteries were ordered to Washington, with directions to equip and hold themselves ready for orders, which may be sent them at any

time. I asked also for ten 10-inch, twenty 8-inch, and twenty Coehorn mortars.

I excluded the 8-inch howitzer (siege). It is a cross between the gun and mortar without the advantages of either; besides, I think the cases would be rare in which the siege guns or 12-pounder field guns could not be made to do the work of these 8-inch howitzers. Still, I have no objection, and it would be well if you have the transportation to take in addition half a dozen or ten of these howitzers, and if on consideration you desire it, and there is not sufficient transportation for both, take half a dozen of these howitzers as substitutes for as many of the 8-inch mortars.

As to Colonel Kellogg's regiment, I agree with you and asked that it might be associated with yours. I did not know that the two constituted a brigade. It would be well to put them both under instruction. I think you will need them and all I can give you beside. I will see General Grant on the subject or send your letter to Colonel Comstock. At any rate I will endeavor to get you the authority to take both of your regiments with you.

I think it will be of importance to concentrate great power in such operations as may be before us, and it will pay well in case a depot is formed anywhere near the scene of action to send as much material as the limit of instructions will permit. It would be better to err on the side of too much than too little of the material, and especially of the number of pieces of whatever sort.

Very truly, yours,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

Please inform me from time to time of the state of your preparations, that I may keep Generals Meade and Grant informed.

Very truly, yours,

HENRY J. HUNT,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.*

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 23, 1864.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:*

One of the enemy's regiments above the railroad bridge has broken camp and moved off. It moved at a time when it was so smoky the movement could not be seen. No other change visible. Heavy fire in the woods all day at different points.

FULLER,
*Signal Officer.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Culpeper, April* 23, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I have had a party out to-day about 1 mile beyond James City. No enemy seen.

A. T. A. TORBERT,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 23, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you strengthen the detachment at Grove Church by such force as you deem necessary; that General Gregg be directed to hold his division in readiness to move at a moment's notice, and that a portion of General Wilson's division, not less than a brigade, be held ready to move and unite with Gregg, or act in conjunction with him by crossing at lower fords of the Rappahannock (Ellis' Ford).

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 23, 1864.

General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: Inclosed you will find a note from General Humphreys in reference to the enemy's cavalry. Instruct the regiment at Morrisville to push scouts well out toward Tackett's Mills, and keep a bright lookout yourself. I do not think they intend to cross. They are covering that flank, perhaps, in anticipation of some general movement of ours.

Yours, truly,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 23, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I do not know whether the major-general commanding informed you this morning that information reached him last night that the enemy were concentrating all their cavalry at Hamilton's Crossing. Hamilton's Crossing is a few miles south of Fredericksburg, at the railroad crossing of the Massaponax River.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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PICKET RESERVE,
*Near Grove Church, April* 23, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps.*

A deserter from Thirteenth Virginia Cavalry arrived. Reports all of Stuart's cavalry at Fredericksburg. Strength of this post known. Intend to surprise it some night.

O. HARHAUS,
*Col., Comdg. 2d N. Y. Cav., Comdg. Picket Post.*

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 23, 1864—12.10 a. m.

Col. O. HARHAUS,
*Commanding Detachment, Grove Church:*

COLONEL: From information received, there is a general movement of the enemy expected. The general commanding wishes you to watch vigilantly the lower fords of the Rappahannock, reporting at once anything you may see or hear concerning this movement. You will report by dispatch to Bealeton, and thence by telegraph to cavalry corps headquarters and by dispatch to these headquarters.

T. M. BRYAN, JR.,
*Colonel, Commanding Division.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 23, 1864.

Colonel BRYAN,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

Inclosed you will find a confidential note* from General Humphreys. Instruct the party at Grove Church to be on the alert and to push their scouting parties well out toward Falmouth. Let them send information to me frequently, whether they can discover anything or not on the scouts.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 23, 1864.

Colonel BRYAN,
*Commanding Third Cavalry Division:*

There has been a concentration of enemy's cavalry at Fredericksburg, and they threaten to capture your detachment at Grove Church. The regiment at Morrisville of the Second Division has been ordered to Grove Church, and another regiment from the Second Division ordered to Morrisville. You will order the largest of your brigades to be in readiness at a moment's warning to cross over Ellis' Ford and join General Gregg, who will hold his division in readiness, should there be an advance of the enemy's cavalry from Fredericksburg. Please acknowledge the receipt of this by telegraph.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding Cavalry Corps.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 23, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Cumberland:*

As soon as General Heintzelman sends troops to occupy Gallipolis, you will withdraw the present guards and leave the place under his charge.

J. C. KELTON,
*Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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* See p. 952.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 23, 1864. (Received 1 p. m.)

Captain MCENTEE,
*Harper's Ferry:*

It is generally believed in Lee's army that Longstreet's corps is near Charlottesville. I cannot find that his troops have been seen yet. I cannot find date of bread riot at Bristol by Wofford's Georgia brigade. Longstreet and Bishop [Polk?] commanded at Orange Court-House last Monday. Jeff. Davis there on Friday. Previous concentration of cavalry at Hamilton's Crossing. Officers in Lee's army talk of the necessity of an advance, in order to throw Meade back, and afterward fight Burnside. The Twenty-sixth Mississippi, late on duty at Danville, and the Third [First] Confederate Battalion Regulars, Forney commanding, have been added to Joe Davis' Mississippi brigade. The latter is from Loring's division, Johnston's Army. Lee's army constantly provided with nine days' forage and seven days' rations. Baggage gone to the rear. All your dispatches received. They give satisfaction. Use telegraph when necessary.

GEO. H. SHARPE,
*Colonel, Assistant Provost-Marshal-General.*

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GRAFTON, *April* 23, 1864.
(Received Cumberland, 12.15 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL, *Chief of Cavalry:*

General Averell has not as yet ordered any detachment of cavalry to report to me.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General SULLIVAN, *Grafton:*

Your last dispatches received. Have you any news from Colonel Moor at Beverly? When will he be able to move from there? Have any of Averell's cavalry moved east?

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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PARKERSBURG, *April* 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

Arrived at last. What instructions?

J. M. SCHOONMAKER.

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PARKERSBURG, *April* 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General AVERELL:

Entire wagon train and command will be ready to start to-morrow morning. Do you desire that I go specially in charge or can I come by boat? Answer.

J. M. SCHOONMAKER.

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April* 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Commanding Ninth Army Corps:*

March your troops with as little delay as possible, taking position from Bull Run to the Rappahannock, so as to perfectly guard the road between the two streams and relieve the troops now there, so as to enable them to come to the front and join the corps to which they have been assigned. Get forward to the troops as rapidly as possible all their transportation and supplies to the 2d of May, inclusive. When this is done send forward to Brandy Station a competent assistant quartermaster and commissary of subsistence to take charge of stores. Forward also troops of your own, a brigade, if you think proper, to guard your stores at that place. Have brought up there fifteen days' rations and ten days' forage of grain alone, to be held for use after your march from there. All supplies that you use whilst on the railroad is to be independent of these supplies. Of the fifteen days' supplies to be carried with you but four will be pork or bacon; the remainder will be beef on the hoof. Your men must carry seven days' rations without meat in haversacks and knapsacks. Baggage must be reduced to nothing in wagons, or as near to that standard as possible, all the transportation being reserved so far as possible for provisions and ordnance stores. One hundred and fifty rounds of ammunition per man will be the amount required to be carried on the person and in wagons together. If it can be avoided, no ammunition should be carried on the person, except what can be put in the cartridge-boxes.

For the sake of uniformity you should adopt about the same orders governing transportation that General Meade has. I have no copy of his order on the subject, but will have one sent to you. Further details and instructions will be furnished you after your troops are in position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 23, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Annapolis:*

The Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery, armed as infantry, has been asigned to your corps. It is en route to this place. Please have a staff officer here to receive and give it orders.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 23, 1864—2.25 p. m.

Major-General HEINTZELMAN, *Columbus, Ohio:*

Governor Brough has been authorized to raise a regiment of militia to guard the public stores at Gallipolis. They will be under your orders and you will issue tents, &c., to them. As soon as they occupy that place General Sigel will be authorized to withdraw his present guard and leave the place in your charge. Consult with the adjutant-general of the State in the Governor's absence.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

WASHINGTON, *April* 23, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

Captain Fox says one iron-clad reached Fort Monroe this morning; one on the way from Boston; one leaves New York to-day; one Philadelphia Monday. Will probably have six there in the course of a week. Says rebel ram in Albemarle Sound has only four small guns, and that panic is unfounded. Near 2,000 effective men at Plymouth, and same at Little Washington, by last returns. To withdraw garrisons now would be difficult and sacrifice heavy artillery and Union people. Said to have thirty days' supplies. Will write you the reasons of the joint board of army and navy officers for occupying these places. To save time have General Butler telegraph direct to you. Copies will always be taken off the wires here. The troops coming from New York have been assigned to General Burnside.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 23, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 1.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

I have received by the hands of Colonel Cutts a communication in relation to the French vessels. The tenor of the note of the French chargé is equivalent to saying that a movement is pending up James River, which is to be communicated to the consul at Richmond. The time having expired to-day—limited by the convention for shipping the tobacco—may I now be permitted to notify the French commander at City Point that the time has so expired, and therefore he is to come down at once and deliver the dispatches of the French minister to him after his arrival at Fort Monroe?

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

(Copy to General Grant.)

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 23, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

You have a copy of the letter of the Secretary of State and will use your own judgment as to the manner of carrying out his wishes.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 23, 1864—5 p. m.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

General Butler's dispatch of this date suggests, I think, the right course to pursue in notifying the French to discontinue shipping their tobacco. Please direct him to adopt it.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

CULPEPER, *April* 23, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

General Halleck telegraphs me that one iron-clad reached Fort Monroe this morning; one on the way from Boston; one leaves New York to-day; one Philadelphia Monday. Will probably have six there in course of a week. Some of the prisoners paroled from Fort Monroe are known to be in our front now. I do not want to place you in a position to show bad faith in our dealings with the rebels, as they have done with us, but before sending another man who by any possibility can do duty in the next three months, I would have an explanation on what grounds they have placed men on duty released by you on parole.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 113. } *Fort Monroe, Va., April* 23, 1864.

I. The Tenth, Twenty-second, and Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops will form the First Brigade of the colored division, under the command of Brig. Gen. E. A. Wild, to report to Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks.

The Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth U. S. Colored Troops will form the Second Brigade of the colored division, under command of Col. Samuel A. Duncan, to report to Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 23, 1864.

Col. CHARLES J. PAINE,
*Aide-de-Camp:*

COLONEL: You will take the Greyhound, under a flag of truce, proceed up James River with the utmost possible dispatch, report to the admiral's flag-ship as you pass, showing him this letter of instruction, communicate with the Count Marivault, commanding French vessels near City Point, and deliver him the dispatch of which you are the bearer.

You are also charged to explain to him verbally, and also to the commander of any other French vessel, if it becomes necessary, lying at City Point or in the James River above our picket boats, that they and each of them are respectfully requested and desired at once to return to Hampton Roads, whether they have shipped their tobacco or otherwise, as the time limited by the convention between the two Governments has expired. You will also communicate with the senior officer of the Confederate forces whom you may meet, explain to him the message with which you are charged, and deliver to him a dispatch which will be given you.

You are at liberty to offer to any of the officers of the French ships passage back on board your boat, but that is in no way to interfere or to hinder or delay the return of the French vessels to this point.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 23, 1864.

COUNT MARIVAULT,
*Comdg. His Imperial Majesty's vessel of war Grenade,* or
SENIOR OFFICER,
*Comdg. French Fleet at City Point:*

COUNT: The 23d day of April being the time limited by the convention between the representatives of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French and the Hon. William H. Seward, Secretary of State of the United States, in regard to the shipment of certain tobacco therein specified from Richmond, and not having been notified of any further convention between the two high contracting parties, or order of my Government to extend the time for such shipment, I am obliged to request you to leave your anchorage at City Point, or wherever else you may be with your vessel on James River, and to return immediately to Hampton Roads, near Fortress Monroe, to await further instructions from the representatives of your Government.

You are expected and respectfully desired to return and bring with you all ships, vessels, and boats belonging to or under charter of the representatives of the Government of His Imperial Majesty employed upon the mission referred to in the convention between the two Governments, whether the tobacco shall have been received by you or not.

Trusting that you may not be subjected to much inconvenience by the course which I feel it my duty to suggest and direct, and with assurances of personal esteem,

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 23, 1864.

*To the Comdg. Officer of the Confederate Forces at City Point:*

The limit of time having arrived which was fixed by the convention between the representatives of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of France and the United States for shipping tobacco on French account at City Point, I have sent up Colonel Paine, of my staff, for the single purpose of delivering dispatches to the commander of the French vessels. I have thought it proper that he should communicate with you, that you might know his mission.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *April* 23, 1864.

Capt. G. V. FOX,
*Assistant Secretary of the Navy:*

I think you can do more good to the service by coming here for twenty-four hours than anywhere else. Please breakfast with me to-morrow morning at 9 a. m. Perhaps you can bring the President with you.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *April* 23, 1864.
(Received 10.10 p. m.)

Capt. G. V. FOX,
*Assistant Secretary of the Navy:*

Glad to hear that Smith is coming here, but it is not about the North Carolina matter that I desire to see you. It is something more important; do come. Will send a 16-knot boat for you. You are not getting out the piles, as I am informed.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *April* 23, 1864.

Hon. HENRY WILSON,
*U. S. Senator, Washington, D. C.*.

Please have no action taken at present upon General Gillmore's confirmation if he is likely to be rejected. His corps is ordered here, and I should not like to change commanders just now.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose to you a copy of a letter written to Major Davis last night, and dispatched to you about midnight.*

This morning General Peck sent for me, as I supposed to turn over the command of this district, with the orders, special instructions, &c., that he might have received from you. He, however, informed me of some dispatches which he had received from the Sub-districts of Beaufort and the Pamlico. He informed me that he should send to you immediately a communication on the subject of these dispatches. I then reminded the general that he had yesterday informed me that he should relinquish the command to me, and I merely asked, "Who is now responsible for operations here?" He replied that he expected the General Berry in to-day from Fort Monroe with dispatches, and that when she arrived he should turn over the command, if no orders to the contrary arrived. I have merely thought it proper to inform you of this. I have no complaints to make.

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*See p. 303.

General Peck informs me that Colonel McChesney writes from Little Washington that a portion of his North Carolina regiment is demoralized; that he not only has no confidence in them, but that he fears they will desert to the enemy.

If a stampede has taken place among these North Carolinians it is silly and shameful, for there is no necessity for it. "*Honore general nobilissime!*" Let us speak plainly and understand each other. I have but little confidence in these North Carolina troops when they are menaced by a very superior force. They recollect the fate of those recently hanged at Kinston, and the wives, sisters, and children of those victims haunt us daily. It becomes matter for some thought as to the best disposition to be made of them. The immense number of women and children with these troops is what perplexes us, for these must be provided for.

Some hundreds of refugees, poor people from Plymouth and vicinity, are to be here to-day. These will cause no little embarrassment, but they must be provided for, and I will endeavor to see that they do not suffer.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

P. S.—I have tolerable information that the ram, from Kinston, has moved down the river to a point some 10 miles below Kinston.

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 23, 1864.

Capt. J. R. SHAFFER,
*Aide-de-Camp:*

CAPTAIN: Your hasty note of this morning is received. General Peck was to have turned over the command of the District of North Carolina to me to-day. For reasons best known to himself he has concluded not to do so, until he can hear further from Major-General Butler. I have, however, shown him your note, and he has requested me to write to you to request General Graham to send one or two of the army gun-boats here.

The rebel ram built on the Neuse River is reported not many miles from us. We have blockaded the river as far as we possibly could, and the work upon the blockade is still progressing. This blockade must be carefully watched, and one or two light-draught gun-boats ought to be able to prevent anything like the surprise that was made at Plymouth.

The situation at Plymouth is thus: The army gun-boat Bombshell is sunk at the dock at Plymouth, and it is presumed she can be easily raised by the rebels. They, of course, have an abundance of guns to place upon her, and they can use her, when so raised, for offensive operations against us. It is my opinion that one of General Graham's gun-boats could be very usefully employed in co-operating with the heavy gun-boats now at the mouth of the Roanoke in watching the rebels and in obtaining information of various sorts. I do not think the ram on the Roanoke can get out of that river into the sounds if ordinary vigilance is exercised, and if we can harass the rebels and prevent them from raising the Bombshell or get-

ting the guns from the Southfield it would be well to do so. I have no idea of the draught of these army gun-boats of General Graham's. Up the Roanoke he can carry any amount of water. Here boats drawing more than 3½ feet or 4 feet of water cannot maneuver in the vicinity of the blockade.

We are busy here to-night in preparing a reconnaissance to find out where the Neuse River ram is, and I have no time to write more than this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

P. S.—If General Graham thinks that the interests of the service will admit of it, I would like to see him here. I can send him back to Roanoke at any time, as we [are] tolerably supplied with transportation.

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YORKTOWN, *April* 23, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

Will you send me the first regular artillery officer that comes along? I want him to command Battery A, Fifth Artillery, as I wish to detach Lieutenant Muhlenberg, the only officer with it, for duty on my staff. I wish you would also send me the best regiment of colored troops you have to guard the contraband camps in this vicinity, as the white soldiers have been committing all sorts of depredations, and I want to get some of them shot for it when caught in the act.

W. F. SMITH,
*Major-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, April* 24, 1864—9.52 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Your telegram respecting your conversation with Dennison and Garfield has been received. Their statements are widely circulated and excite much anxiety among many, and also subject you to unfavorable criticism. An army of newspaper reporters are trying to get to the front, but passes are refused to every one by this Department. They expect to get down by passes from your provost-marshal.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 24, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Captain MERRILL:

The battery heretofore in position in front of the Halsey House, at Somerville Ford, has been withdrawn. One section visible in position behind the new line of intrenchments, in rear of the above resi-

dence, 200 yards farther up the mountain. The remainder of the battery is in the immediate vicinity. No other changes observed along the river. Atmosphere too smoky for observation in direction of Madison Court-House and toward the Blue Ridge.

PAINE.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 24, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
*Comdg. Fifth Corps, Culpeper Court-House:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that it is expected that Major-General Burnside will commence relieving your troops on the line of the railroad to-morrow, commencing at Bull Run, and directs that you concentrate your troops as fast as they are relieved. The Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, now on the line of the railroad, will remain there when your troops are relieved, and Major-General Sheridan will be notified to direct the commanding officer of the regiment to report to Major-General Burnside for duty with his command. In giving the necessary directions to your troops the major-general commanding desires that General Burnside's name may not be used, but notification given merely that they will be relieved by other troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.
*April* 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Captain Goddard, one of my aides, has just returned from Grove Church and reports that all the dispositions I notified you of this morning have been made. The regiment at Morrisville has been harassed to some extent by guerrillas, and the party at Grove Church somewhat alarmed. Refugees and negroes report the rebel cavalry are numerous at Fredericksburg, and the country down toward Port Conway as having a large number of the rebel cavalry at their homes. Dismounted men in small parties make their appearance at Spotted Tavern, Hartwood Church, Stafford, and at Brentsville. The party at Grove Church is now 385 men. I think, however, that Morrisville would be a much safer place, and the same ground could be covered by strong scouting parties. Grove Church makes a very tempting bait for a sudden rush with a strong force, and it would require some time to get strong supports to the relief of the party stationed there.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 24, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I am instructed to advise you that a more careful examination of deserters and recent information lead to the belief that only Hamp-

ton's division of cavalry is being concentrated at Hamilton's Crossing or at Fredericksburg. One of its brigades has been at Hamilton's Crossing all winter; another farther down south, on the line of the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad, and the third (Rosser's) in the Shenandoah Valley. I am also instructed to say that the major-general commanding does not approve at present of withdrawing the command at Grove Church, which he does not consider in danger if the lower fords of the Rappahannock are well watched.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

Captain Goddard has just returned from Morrisville and Grove Church. The regiment at Morrisville has been harassed by dismounted guerrillas. There is also a good deal of anxiety felt on part of all parties at Grove Church for fear of an attempt of the enemy to surprise them, and have suggested that the party at Grove Church, now 385 strong, be withdrawn to Morrisville. That will make a strong force there, and stronger scouting parties can be sent out and the same results obtained. It will be necessary for you to look out for these parties by keeping open communication with Morrisville, and to go to their relief if attacked. Turn in your unserviceable horses if you have not done so.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 24, 1864.

Colonel SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Six companies of the First Pennsylvania Cavalry, 379 men, mounted, started for Morrisville at daylight this morning, to support the force at Grove Church.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry, &c.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 24, 1864—9 p. m.

General SHERIDAN:

Telegram just received. Orders have been given to the detachment at Southard's Cross-Roads to send a strong patrol to Ellis' Ford twice a day, and to watch well the roads from the fords on the Rapidan. They are to report promptly any appearance of a movement among the enemy. The party at Grove Church has been notified that Ellis' Ford will be visited by other patrols. Didn't see anybody in Washington that could tell me anything about the Eighth Illinois.

J. H. WILSON,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

ALEXANDRIA, *April* 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: The usual patrols have been out to-day; report all quiet, except that I sent out a party last night in command of Lieutenant Jackson. They went to Accotink and thence up the Occoquan about 9 miles, and had a skirmish with the guerrillas; 4 of the guerrillas were wounded, 1 mortally. We captured 2 horses. One corporal, and 1 man of Company D, First Michigan Cavalry, were severely but not dangerously wounded. We lost 1 horse. The party marched about 50 miles and were out twenty-four hours. The guerrillas were all driven out of the neighborhood.

Respectfully,

H. H. WELLS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Provost-Marshal.*

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CULPEPER, *April* 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. FRANZ SIGEL,
*Commanding Department of West Virginia:*

Unless you receive orders from me to the contrary, start your column under Averell and Crook on the 2d day of May. I have telegraphed General Sherman to order your old chief quartermaster of the Eleventh Corps to you, if he is not on duty from which he cannot be taken.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 24, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 9.30 a. m. 25th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

All the infantry, cavalry, and trains have been shipped to Parkersburg, and should arrive in Charleston on the 26th. The Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry has also arrived at Charleston from Ohio, but it numbers only 300 men; the rest are in Chattanooga. Six infantry regiments are now at Martinsburg. The last two which can be sent are on their way from Beverly to Webster, and will be shipped to Martinsburg as soon as they arrive at Webster. I will leave for Martinsburg to-morrow morning and report from there.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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APRIL 24, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Commanding Department, Cumberland:*

I have the honor to request that you will direct a small force to advance from Beverly in the direction of Marlin's Bottom two or three days' march, with orders to spread the report that a heavy force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery is following them. Let them move on the 25th. I cannot be ready for two or three days yet.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 19. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April 24, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. The following changes and assignments of staff officers are announced:

Col. A. B. Jones, additional aide-de-camp, will perform the duties of assistant inspector-general of this department, his appointment to date from April 12, 1864.

Col. D. H. Strother, Third Virginia Cavalry, relieved by Colonel Jones as acting assistant inspector-general, is named as aide-de-camp, and will be assigned to special duty at these headquarters.

Maj. Franz Kappner, additional aide-de-camp, is assigned to special duty in the engineer department, under such instructions as he may at times receive from the general commanding; this to date from March 21, 1864.

Capt. J. B. Salisbury, commissary of subsistence, is appointed chief commissary of subsistence of this department, relieving Capt. W. H. Hosack, commissary of subsistence.

The general commanding the department tenders his sincere thanks to Captain Hosack for the efficient services rendered to the Government as chief commissary of the department.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April 24, 1864.*

PROVOST-MARSHAL,
*Point of Rocks:*

Your telegram is received and approved. Means' battalion, under command of Lieut. D. M. Keyes, will move without delay via railroad to Parkersburg, thence to Charleston, and report to General Crook. The quartermaster will furnish the necessary transportation. You will see the order is complied with. If more force is necessary than you have at command, telegraph at once. If any refuse to go, put them in irons and forward.

By command of Brig. Gen. Max Weber, commanding:

H. M. BURLEIGH,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April 24, 1864.*

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of West Virginia:*

In accordance with your telegram of yesterday, I have appointed Col. R. F. Taylor, who is senior officer at Martinsburg, to command all the troops there and arriving at that place. The order regarding scouts will at once be complied with. I have already sent to Pleasant Valley to ascertain what cavalry is there. Nothing new from the rebels.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *April* 24, 1864.

General MAX WEBER:

A scout of 100 men of this command were in Winchester this a. m., with instructions to send back messenger if any force was heard of. No messenger has arrived. I am satisfied there can be no rebel force there.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper:*

GENERAL: I happened to be present at a discussion of a board or commission of army and navy officers on the blockade or occupation of the coast of North Carolina about October, 1861.

It was then said the Navy could not blockade that coast so as to prevent contraband trade; on the contrary, a very extensive trade was being carried by small vessels in Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds, which, from the number and nature of the inlets and bays, no blockade could possibly prevent. It was decided that to prevent this it was absolutely necessary to occupy and hold the mouths of Neuse, Tar, and Roanoke Rivers, and some points on the Chowan. Our gun-boats which could enter the sounds being too small to resist those which the enemy could send down these rivers, the rebels would control, it was said, these waters, unless New Berne, Washington, and Plymouth were fortified and garrisoned.

Again, last year, when it was very desirable to re-enforce the Army of the Potomac, it was represented to me by army and navy officers that to abandon either of the above-named places would be extremely injurious to our cause in North Carolina, fatal to Union men who had accepted our protection, and destructive to our flotilla in the sounds. Admiral Lee has frequently represented that his fleet was barely sufficient for the blockade of Wilmington, and we know that even that is very imperfect.

After a full consideration of the case I could not decide to abandon these places, when the demand for troops elsewhere was even greater than at present. I therefore cannot advise it now, but will order it if you so direct. It is useless for me to consult with General Butler on this subject, for his opinion would not change my judgment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 24, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

Before receiving your dispatch I had telegraphed to General Butler to use his own judgment as to the manner of giving notice to the French. The Twenty-second New York Cavalry, now at the depot, is undisciplined and unfit for the field. I have ordered them armed as infantry, and their horses to be given to the Second Ohio (veteran) and to detachments of the Army of the Potomac. I think at

least a regiment of the latter should be given to General Burnside, as he will be deficient in cavalry on going to the field. The Northern States are nearly exhausted in cavalry horses, and purchases will be small till after the crops are put in. When the mares have foaled they will be used for summer farm work and more horses can be procured.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, *April* 24, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

A Richmond paper of the 22d, brought in by a deserter, reports the capture of Plymouth, with 1 general, 2,500 prisoners, and all the stores. I do not think it advisable to attempt the recapture, if this is true. What are your preparations for holding Washington, N. C. ? It will be much better to hold New Berne strongly than to have little posts picked up in detail.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA, *April* 24, 1864—3 p. m.
(Received 5.30 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy:*

An army bearer of dispatches, from New Berne on the night of the 22d, reports that enemy carried the defenses of Plymouth, after frequent bloody attacks, on 20th instant. General Wessells and command taken prisoners. The ram and rifle-screened Cotton Planter were in Roanoke River, and Tacony, Miami, and other gun-boats at mouth of river waiting for her, confident of destroying her when she enters the sounds. There was a report at New Berne on Friday that iron-clad on the Neuse was in sight.

S. P. LEE,
*Acting Rear-Admiral.*

(Copy to General Grant.)

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Fortress Monroe, Va., April* 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN,
*Getty's Line:*

General Wild was relieved several days ago. General Graham was expressly instructed not to interfere with any of your arrangements. That officer is now in North Carolina. You will assume command of all the forces necessary to speedily complete your work. I telegraphed this, having learned that your orders were not strictly obeyed. Understand that you have full authority, and I hope you will soon report all finished.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April 24*, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. K. GRAHAM,
*Commanding Army Gun-boats:*

GENERAL: You have learned, of course, before this that Plymouth has fallen. The naval boats have been dispatched, which are supposed to be sufficient to hold the Pamlico Sound. If you have not before the receipt of this destroyed the ram, I think your services will be of more use in another direction. You will therefore return, so as to be here ready for duty on the 30th. Order back the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts on board the Reno and Burnside. Lieut. Commander Melancton Smith has been ordered in command of the naval force in the south. See to it, if you get this dispatch before you leave, that the Twenty-fifth Regiment is on its way back.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April 24*, 1864.

Brigadier-General PALMER,
*Comdg. District of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I have your dispatch of the 22d, 10 p. m., announcing the loss of Plymouth.* I had hoped better things. It is not right, however, to judge an officer without hearing, and I wait to hear General Wessells' report. Still, it seems to me a more determined defense might have been made.

The place could not have been taken by assault. It was General Wessells' fault if it was not well munitioned and provisioned, and the ram was substantially powerless against the land force, but again I repeat that I do not wish to prejudge. On the question of holding Little Washington, it is not now nor never was of strategic importance, and never should have been garrisoned, in my judgment, and believe I expressed that to you when I saw you last November.

I do not suppose the naval commander will allow the ram to get around into the Pamlico Sound, so there will not be the fear of the ram; but whether Little Washington can stand a siege against all the forces which may be brought against it is a question which I shall leave to your discretion. If you think it can, and there will be no more surrenders, then you may hold it. You know the necessity we have for troops, and can easily guess why I do not re-enforce; therefore I think the troops that are there will be quite as much of use elsewhere as is the holding of the place.

See to it, if you do evacuate, that you bring away all the baggage and guns; use your transportation to bring away families and persons who would be likely to be ill-treated and who desire to come, and convey them to Beaufort. Concentrate upon New Berne and stand a siege. The longer and more severe the siege concentrating the larger number of troops upon you the better. If you concentrate you clearly can send back the troops that I have sent for. If, upon the whole, you conclude to defend Little Washington, you may retain the light battery which has been ordered away. I have

*See p. 303.

known many an officer promoted for a strong, vigorous, although unsuccessful, defense; I have never yet known one, in any service, for a surrender.

You may be overpowered. I know you will never surrender. When there might be some hope of re-enforcing Plymouth I sent down to Roanoke Island the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts, which I must have back at all hazards forthwith by the earliest possible transportation. You can order it back upon the same transportation that brought it down, to wit, the Burnside and Reno. Do not detain any transportation which we shall send down to you.

I wish to tell you further, for your information, that if either Washington or New Berne can hold out fifteen days I shall be in condition to relieve them, perhaps sooner. The inclination of my mind is against holding Washington if it could be evacuated, bringing off all our stores and munitions.

Any aid that you mean to give me by the way of troops I must have by the 30th, or they will be substantially useless.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.
*New Berne, N. C., April 24, 1864.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
*Commanding Sub-district of New Berne:*

GENERAL: I am directed by General Peck to say that he has just returned from the blockade on the Neuse River. He found on conversing with the officer in charge of the section of artillery at that point that no reconnaissances are made up the river above the blockade. Many small boats go up as far as the blockade, but after looking around a little at that point and evincing much fear about proceeding any farther return again. The general thinks that you ought to order small boats to patrol the river as far up as practicable, gaining all possible information as regards the ram, &c.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. D. OUTWATER,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE,
*New Berne, N. C., April 24, 1864.*

Commander H. K. DAVENPORT,
*Senior Naval Officer, Sounds of North Carolina:*

SIR: I wish to call your attention to a few facts which, mentioned kindly, I hope you will take the same way, as I only say these things as a matter of duty, believing it for the best interests of both services.

You understand perfectly the situation of affairs here as far as the rebel ram on the Neuse is concerned, and you must be aware that if that ram is permitted to come into this harbor the shipping, gunboats, &c., must be destroyed or driven away, and the town itself liable to destruction. I have done everything in my power to avoid such a disaster. The forces under my command have picketed the

river on both sides, and the work on the blockade has been pushed as rapidly as possible. For months there has been no boat stationed anywhere near the blockade.

You will recollect that on the day before yesterday I earnestly urged you to send one of the small gun-boats, under your orders, to a point up the river where all parts of the blockade could be seen from her decks, and that small boats should at night row up nearer, in order to give us timely notice of any attempt to interfere with the work or to break through. There are points where such a gun-boat can lie perfectly well, and on the night before last I did find at midnight when I made the rounds that the Lockwood or some other of the small gun-boats was lying in the channel between Fort Stevenson and Fort Anderson in a good position to see everything. Last night, however, there was no boat on the watch, and at 1.30 o'clock this morning, when Lieutenant Ward returned from his reconnaissance up to Swift Creek, there were no naval boats of any description seen higher up the river than where the Commodore Hull is lying.

Now, commander, do you not think that as these gun-boats lie quietly at their moorings for twenty-five days or more in every month that they ought to render some assistance at such a time as this? I have reluctantly come to the conclusion that they will not unless you give your personal attention to it and make your authority felt by your subordinates here.

I can say with pleasure that you have never refused to co-operate with me in any special undertaking, but you must recollect that I have frequently conversed with you concerning the precautions to be taken against surprise on the river and about keeping at least one of the small gun-boats busy in running into and examining the small rivers on the other side of the Neuse, where boat expeditions against us could be assembled. Have these things been done? I tell you, commander, that it is my firm belief that if that ram does get down the river it will be more on account of the utter indifference manifested by the naval forces here than anything else. You may be sure that I would not say this to you if I did not feel it my duty, and I repeat that I hope you will take it kindly, even if you are convinced that I am all wrong in the matter.

I am, commander, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *April* 25, 1864.

As the time is approaching when some of the regiments belonging to this army are to be discharged from the military service of the United States by reason of the expiration of the term for which they were mustered into said service, the commanding general announces to such troops that the War Department has decided that the term of service of a regiment is to be computed from the date of muster into the service of the United States, without reference to the date of enrollment or any service rendered a State.

This decision it will be the duty of the commanding general to enforce, and he will, if necessary, resort to the most extreme measures for this purpose. He will, however, at all times be glad to receive and forward, for the consideration of the proper authority,

any respectful communication touching the term of service of a regiment when such term appears to be involved in doubt.

The commanding general indulges the hope that the regiments to be discharged will cheerfully acquiesce in the decision of the Government with regard to their term of service, and that no organized bodies or individuals, after having borne an unsullied reputation during all the eventful scenes that have marked their connection with the Army of the Potomac, will suffer the honorable fame they have won by their gallantry and good conduct to be tarnished, in the closing hours of their service, by acts of insubordination, which, if ventured upon by any, will be promptly suppressed, and can only terminate in the speedy and certain punishment of the offending parties.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*April* 25, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Your indorsement of the 24th relative to time of muster out of Pennsylvania Reserves received. Decision will be promptly communicated so soon as it is made.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 25, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Captain MERRILL:

Atmosphere this morning very favorable for observation. The enemy has placed six guns in position in the work completed, as reported, on the 8th instant. Two more pieces are discovered a short distance to the right of the section of battery reported last night. No indications of activity in the direction of Madison Court-House or Sperryville.

PAINE.

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 25, 1864—10 a. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain MERRILL:

All quiet. Two small camps have been established behind the works recently constructed near Somerville Ford, and several guns placed in position in the works. A small camp has also disappeared from this side of Clark's Mountain.

TAYLOR.

---

GARNETT'S, *April* 25, 1864.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

Enemy digging rifle-pits about a mile above railroad bridge on river bank. Brigade just on drill.

WIGGINS,
*Signal Officer.*

STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 25, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

A camp, think about a brigade, disappeared this p. m. south 15 degrees west from this point, and 4 or 5 miles back from the river. All quiet.

TAYLOR.

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*Culpeper, Va., April* 25, 1864.

General SHERIDAN:

The general has asked twice to have the Eighth Illinois Cavalry ordered here, but has been answered both times that it cannot be spared from Washington, hence it has not been ordered to you.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Staff.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 25, 1864.

The following-named officers are announced as composing the staff of the major-general commanding the corps. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Inspector-general's department: Lieut. Col. James W. Forsyth, assistant inspector-general and chief of staff; Capt. F. C. Newhall, Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, acting assistant inspector-general.

Adjutant-general's department: Lieut. Col. C. Kingsbury, jr., assistant adjutant-general; Capt. E. B. Parsons, assistant adjutant-general.

Quartermaster's department: Lieut. Col. J. B. Howard, chief quartermaster.

Commissary department: Lieut. Col. G. H. Woods, chief commissary of subsistence.

Medical department: Surg. R. W. Pease, medical director; Asst. Surg. G. M. McGill, medical inspector.

Capt. J. M. Robertson, Second U. S. Artillery, chief of artillery.

Lieut. Col. C. R. Smith, Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, provost-marshal.

Capt. L. Walker, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, commissary of musters.

First Lieut. Myron Hickey, Fifth Michigan Cavalry, ambulance officer.

Aides-de-camp: Capt. T. W. C. Moore, aide-de-camp; Capt. M. V. Sheridan, aide-de-camp; Capt. P. Lacy Goddard, Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp; First Lieut. G. Irvine Whitehead, Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY RESERVE BRIGADE,
*April* 25, 1864.

Capt. C. MCCLELLAN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Cavalry Div., Cavalry Corps:*

CAPTAIN: The officer of the picket reports that the enemy opposite Somerville and Raccoon Fords have been busily engaged for the past few days in throwing up new lines of works and have doubled their pickets since yesterday. These are now so strong as to form a complete skirmish line with strong reserve in their rear, and the greatest vigilance and activity is exhibited.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED GIBBS,
*Colonel First New York Dragoons, Comdg. Brigade.*

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GROVE CHURCH, VA., *April* 25, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I sent a patrol this morning at daylight on the Falmouth road. It reports their pickets 2 miles toward Falmouth, beyond Hartwood Church, and that their patrols of from 30 to 50 men come to Hartwood Church daily. The command near Morrisville is not within supporting distance of me.

T. H. WEED,
*Major, Commanding.*

---

GROVE CHURCH, *April* 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. ROSS SMITH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

My patrols to and beyond Hartwood Church find no signs of the enemy. Four refugees came in and report heavy cavalry force going toward Orange Court-House yesterday, 24th. They report a force crossed below Fredericksburg, which I think was a blind to the force going toward Orange Court-House. They report one brigade left near Hamilton's Crossing. The refugees, 4 white and 1 black, I send to headquarters Second Cavalry Division to-night.

T. H. WEED,
*Major, Commanding Post at Grove Church.*

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HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

The major-general commanding directs me to say that you can relieve Major Weed's command with another force.

The general desires me to say that the force belonging to the Third Cavalry Division, now at Grove Church, will be ordered back to its division, that division being so very small, so that the force you send to relieve Major Weed's command will be the only force at Grove Church. The general also directs that the wagons belonging to this command had better be stationed at Morrisville. If the enemy advance in force the general directs that you order the command to

fall back on Bealeton or Rappahannock Station, letting the enemy come on slowly, directing the commanding officer to send in information quickly.

C. ROSS SMITH,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 25, 1864.

Col. J. P. TAYLOR,
*Comdg. First Pennsylvania Cavalry, Morrisville:*

COLONEL: A command of 300 men from Second Brigade is sent to relieve the detachment of the Tenth New York, under Major Weed. The officer in command is directed to report to you, that you may direct him to take the position now occupied by the Tenth New York. Whatever instructions may have been sent to Major Weed from cavalry corps headquarters will be carried out by the officer relieving him. From Morrisville scouting will be kept up toward Tackett's Mills. Scouting parties from the Third Division will cover Ellis' Ford. Captain Corson will make arrangements by which you can draw forage and rations from Bealeton and will furnish sufficient wagons for their transportation. You will assume command of all the forces from this division at or in the vicinity of Morrisville and carry out fully all instructions heretofore given from these headquarters and from headquarters cavalry corps to other commanders on duty at Morrisville and Grove Church.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 25, 1864.

Capt. T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of West Virginia:*

I had yesterday evening information, not very reliable, that a force of rebels were near Winchester. Colonel Taylor, commanding at Martinsburg, has sent out a scouting party, which is expected back to-day. Upon its return I will telegraph the news. Means' men refused to obey the order to move to Charleston. Upon my taking measures to enforce the command they decided to obey, and are now ready to move.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 25, 1864.

Captain BAMFORD,
*Provost-Marshal, Point of Rocks:*

Lieutenant Keyes, commanding Independent Virginia Rangers, will remain as at present until further orders, the order for their movement having been countermanded.

By order of Brig. Gen. Max Weber:

SAML. F. WOODS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *April* 25, 1864.

[General MAX WEBER:]

Scouts from the front report a force in our front. I have sent messenger to Kearneysville and Duffield's. This force is reported on our right. General Sigel is here; will confer with him.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 25, 1864.

Col. R. F. TAYLOR,
*Commanding U. S. Forces at Martinsburg:*

Your report is at hand; thank you for your promptness. I would like you to send me as much cavalry as you can spare, and such as are acquainted with this portion of the country. The troops will report through you. I can give no particular directions regarding the dispositions of your forces. Make such as the safety of your position may require. I expect each day to see General Sigel in person, or to receive from him particular instructions regarding your forces. As soon as received they will at once be forwarded to you.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Harper's Ferry, April* 25, 1864.

Col. R. F. TAYLOR,
*Commanding U. S. Forces at Martinsburg:*

The written order appointing you to the command of all the forces at Martinsburg and arriving there was sent you to-day. Have it promulgated, and after it is officially known to those under your command, if any refuse to obey your orders, place them at once under arrest.

MAX WEBER,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 25, 1864.

General STAHEL:

This dispatch is dated Charleston, the 24th,* and we must do everything to comply with it. You will therefore order the Twenty-first New York to advance from Beverly to Pocahontas County, and in the direction of Huntersville. They should go as far as Sulphur Springs, which is northeast of Marlin's Bottom and about 15 miles north of Huntersville. They must rely on what they can find in the country, but should give receipts for everything, undersigned by their commander, which receipts will be honored. They must stay in Pocahontas County for two or three days, and find their way back as good as they can. They must start at once, and the order must be sent to them from Buckhannon, if they cannot be reached by telegraph as far as Beverly, as the telegraph operator has probably left

*See Crook to Sigel, p. 964.

Beverly and has gone to Buckhannon. The Eleventh Virginia has to go back immediately to Beverly. Has Lieutenant Meigs sent the boats to General Crook? Please answer.

F. SIGEL.

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CUMBERLAND, MD., *April* 25, 1864.

*Comdg. Officer 21st New York Cav., Buckhannon, W. Va.:*

You will proceed forthwith with your command from Beverly to Pocahontas County, in the direction of Huntersville, as far as Sulphur Springs, which is northeast of Marlin's Bottom and about 15 miles north of Huntersville. You will rely on what you can find in the country, but will give receipts for everything. Let the impression be given out that a large force is approaching. You will stay in Pocahontas County for two or three days and then return by such route as you may deem best. Acknowledge receipt of this and also report your return.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Martinsburg:*

Major Simpson, Eleventh Virginia, Parkersburg, reports rear detachments arrived and embarking. The Twenty-third Illinois started this morning. General Weber reports that under information, not deemed reliable, which placed a force near Winchester, he sent scouting party from Colonel Taylor's command to ascertain facts. Means' men refused to obey order to move to Charleston, but upon measures being taken to enforce orders, complied, and are now ready to move.

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 25, 1864.

Major SIMPSON,
*Parkersburg:*

You will remain with four companies of the Eleventh at Parkersburg until further orders.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 25, 1864.
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

Make no arrangements in regard to General Sullivan, Colonel Moor, and Colonel Harris until you receive my instructions, which will be sent immediately.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *April* 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN, *Webster:*

Communicate with commanding officer Tenth Virginia Infantry and direct him to return with command to Beverly forthwith, to there await further orders.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

GREEN SPRING, *April* 25, 1864.
(Received 6.50 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

Let General Sullivan stay at Grafton until further orders.

F. SIGEL.

---

GRAFTON, *April* 25, 1864.
(Received 7.45 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

The last of the cavalry from Clarksburg is now passing through this place east.

J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, *April* 25, 1864.
(Received 1.25 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

The 100 men sent to ascertain the strength of the enemy at or near Front Royal met a force of about 250 men near Middletown and were driven back as far as Winchester, with a loss of 1 officer and 8 or 10 men. The exact loss cannot be definitely given, as many whose horses had given out are coming in. A force of infantry, cavalry, and mounted infantry have been ordered out to intercept them and ascertain their intentions.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding Post.*

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CLARKSBURG, *April* 25, 1864.
(Received 11 a. m.)

Major-General STAHEL, *Chief of Cavalry:*

Remainder of my command, First (Lincoln) Cavalry, move by rail to Martinsburg this p. m. I will report at Cumberland for orders.

WM. B. TIBBITS,
*Colonel Twenty-first New York Cavalry.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Greenland Gap, W. Va., April* 25, 1864.

Lieut. THEODORE LUMAN,
*A. A. A. G., 2d Separate Brig., Dept. of West Virginia:*

LIEUTENANT: In compliance with instructions from brigade headquarters, I have made to-day a thorough examination of the condi-

tion of the blockade on the Oakland road. I found that it had not been disturbed, except at one place, and that of no importance. I took with me a squad of cavalry and passed through and around the blockade to within 2 miles of the North Branch. It is utterly impossible to make the blockade so effective as to prevent cavalry from reaching the railroad, with very little detention. The blockade is efficient enough against everything but cavalry and infantry. There is nothing new; no enemy seen or heard of, except a flying rumor that a squad of 7 or 8 rebels were in Burlington a few days ago. I was out beyond the Moorefield Junction on Wednesday and 5 miles out old Petersburg road yesterday to get information about the topography, &c., of Hardy from an old county surveyor of the name of Munsing, that I happened to hear of.

Very respectfully, &c.,

G. ELLIS PORTER,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding U. S. Forces.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., DEPT. OF W. VA.,
No. 12. } *Charleston, W. Va., April* 25, 1864.

1. The troops of this command will hold themselves in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

2. Brigades and regiments will alternate on the march, the ambulances in the rear of their respective regiments. The position of the artillery in the column will be directed by the general commanding. The train will move immediately in rear of the column in the following order: First, ambulances; second, ordnance; third, division, brigade, and regimental teams, in order of the march; fourth, supply train. The whole column to be compact and well closed up.

3. All pillaging and marauding will be severely punished. No officer or soldier will be allowed to enter inclosures on the march, or to sleep at houses, away from their commands at night without special permission from the general commanding.

4. Should it become necessary to subsist the command from the country supplies must be taken in the proper way and by the proper officers. All impressment or destruction of property, either public or private, unless done by proper authority, will be severely punished. All officers who are cognizant of any violation of this order, whether the offender is under his immediate command or not, and not taking the proper measures to bring the offender to punishment, will be held personally responsible.

5. Regimental commanders will see that this order is published to their respective regiments.

By command of Brig. Gen. George Crook:

JAS. L. BOTSFORD,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, *April* 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL.
*Cumberland:*

Colonel Frost has just arrived. He reports not quite 2,000 effective men in the five regiments under him. The two Pennsylvania regiments had not arrived at Parkersburg when he left. The cavalry

expected to leave there this morning for Charleston. Colonel Frost reports four of his companies left back at Parkersburg. These regiments falling short of what I expected will change somewhat the plan I gave you a general outline of the other day. I will give you all the details of my plan as soon as all the troops arrive and I have them definitely made.

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 25, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper:*

* * * * * * *

Dispatches * just received from Generals Butler and Peck state that the garrison at Plymouth, after a small loss, surrendered to the rebels on Wednesday, the 20th. No particulars. General Butler says nothing about what he intends to do.

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H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 25, 1864—11.30 p. m.
(Received 1.40 a. m., 26th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

I want General Butler to hold New Berne at all hazards, but would prefer him to remove everything from Washington to having our little forces in North Carolina picked up in detail, or to being forced to abandon our offensive operations to defend them.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. ARMY AND DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 20 [22], delivered by Captain Shaffer, your aide-de-camp. I think that I understand perfectly from this letter and from the conversation I have had with Captain Shaffer your desires in this present emergency. With regard to this district, in all existing circumstances I consider it necessary only to hold this place, the line of railroad from here to Morehead, Hatteras Inlet, and Roanoke Island. For reasons obvious to yourself these at this time cannot be abandoned. I will at the earliest possible moment send a brigade of not less than four regiments from this district to Fort Monroe.

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* See pp. 279 and 286.

In order to do this it may become necessary to entirely abandon Little Washington. Should this latter, however, be done it will be done very carefully, and every effort will be made to prevent the intention from becoming known to the enemy.

Such regiments as can be spared from this place will be immediately sent to Fort Monroe. Those that can be spared from Washington will be quietly ordered on board of transport to proceed immediately to Fort Monroe, leaving always a sufficient force there to keep up the idea that there is no intention of abandoning the place. The same thing will obtain in other portions of this command, and it is expected that in a few days, a week at most, the four regiments may be quietly embarked for Fort Monroe.

With a small military force and one gun-boat, perhaps Little Washington may be held, and it will not be entirely abandoned until it becomes absolutely certain that it is menaced by a very superior force, and if it be abandoned finally, I hope that the enemy will find nothing to compensate them for its capture. I conceive that with the capture of Plymouth by the rebels, and the abandonment of Washington by our own forces in the present state of affairs, we are as well, if not better, off than we were before. Those places were really in the first place of no value to us, as long as we could hold the mouths of the Roanoke and Tar Rivers. We never held them except by sufferance, and during the last eighteen months the only real object in retaining possession of them was to protect those persons, both white and black, who had sought protection within our line of fortifications, and to prevent small boat expeditions to operate against us in the sounds from being organized at those places. To abandon these places, however, at this time, would necessitate the presence of a sufficient naval force to perfectly guard and watch the operations of the enemy on those rivers and to prevent incursions into the sounds.

Your ideas concerning the sending of every man of these regiments will be strictly complied with.

The matter of relieving and appointing another provost-marshal for this district, the establishing of a provost court, and systematizing of the recruiting service will be attended to without delay.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 25, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 24th is just received by the hands of Colonel Jourdan. I had two hours previously written you by Captain Shaffer. I am only the more convinced that I perfectly understood your wishes, and from my letter by Captain Shaffer you will, I think, be convinced that I have anticipated them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 70. HDQRS. ARMY AND DIST. OF N. C., *New Berne, N. C., April 25, 1864.*

By virtue of Special Orders, No. 109, paragraph VI, of the 19th instant, from department headquarters, the undersigned is relieved from the command in North Carolina. Since the order was issued prior to the reception of news of the enemy's operations in the State, he has deemed it his duty to remain so long as the present danger shall continue.

Many of the troops have been in the field from the outbreak of the revolution,* and were with Burnside or Foster at Roanoke, New Berne, Macon, and Goldsborough. Others were with the commanding general at Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, in Seven Days' before Richmond, on the Blackwater, and at Suffolk.

During the past nine months the command has been small, but very active, and has added New Berne, Batchelder's Creek, Plymouth, and many other names of lesser note to that list already inscribed on the hearts of the American people. Of such officers and men the commanding general is justly proud, and he separates from them with deep and lasting regret.

It is a pleasing reflection that the district will be commanded by General Palmer, an officer of distinguished service, and well acquainted with the condition of affairs in North Carolina.

The occasion is embraced to thank Commander Davenport, the officers and sailors of the navy, as well as the revenue service and Colonel Heaton and the officers of the Treasury Department for that prompt, cordial, and patriotic support which has always been extended to the army.

JOHN J. PECK,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. DIST. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *New Berne, N. C., April 25, 1864.*

In accordance with Special Orders, No. 109, paragraph VI, current series, from department headquarters, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the District of North Carolina.

All existing orders and regulations will remain in force until otherwise ordered.

The officers of the general staff will be announced in future orders.

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS, *April 25, 1864.*

General PALMER,
*Commanding:*

I know of a spot in the Neuse River that can be blockaded so effectually that years of profound peace will be requisite to remove the obstructions. Have I authority to do it? Nothing new this a. m. No enemy near here, and have things so shaped that surprise is not likely.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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*See Butler to Peck, April 27, p. 1002.

NEW BERNE, *April* 25, 1864.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

The ram is no myth. Rest assured of that. The Roanoke ram was considered such until she produced the greatest disaster to us of the year.

PALMER,
*General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 26, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

A spy, whose information has heretofore proved correct, reports on the 16th that Longstreet's baggage was at Richmond and his artillery at Lynchburg; that Pickett was sending 5,000 or 6,000 men from North Carolina to Lee, and that the latter had eighty days' supplies at Gordonsville. Also that the rebels were planting torpedoes in the Rappahannock, below Tappahannock.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 26, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

I have not heard to-day from the Pennsylvania Reserves. I published an order warning them of the consequences of refusing to do duty and promising to obtain a speedy decision from the War Department in their case. I also received and transmitted to them a telegram received to-day from Colonel Townsend, promising prompt action in their case. I will telegraph to the commanding officer and advise you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 26, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Received 10.55 a. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
*Commanding Engineer Brigade:*

General Burnside has been authorized to call on you for a bridge in case he requires one to replace the one of ten boats now laid across the Rappahannock. You will answer his requisition and furnish the necessary detail from your command to superintend the laying of the bridge and taking the proper care of it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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FORT RICHARDSON, VA., *April* 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT,
*Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Yours of 23d instant is received. I have now ten 4½-inch guns, with carriages, implements, platforms, &c., complete, afloat.

To-morrow I shall begin to load more rapidly. I have six schooners (about 200 tons) now lying at the arsenal, and can load as fast as the ordnance stores arrive. Balch promises by 6th of May to fill the whole requisition and add several 8-inch howitzers. I shall have to take about twenty 4½-inch guns and twenty 30-pounder Parrotts, that being the best the Ordnance Department can do. Captain Benton advises taking as many Parrotts as possible, even as a matter of choice. The trial 4½-inch gun burst after 800 rounds, and he is a little afraid of them.

My two companies, B and M, are now with the regiment, prepared to go with us at a very short notice. I have drawn camp and garrison equipage, &c., for the whole regiment, and hope we may all start at the same time, if possible.

I am very glad you agree with me in thinking my entire brigade necessary. Many of the recruits are young and will of course be reduced in numbers by field service. The two regiments have long been associated and will work admirably together. I shall be delighted if it can be arranged for Colonel Kellogg to accompany me. You may count on the first line being ready by April 30, with, I think, very considerable additional stores.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,

*Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.*

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 26, 1864—10 a. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain MERRILL:

Three hundred or 400 of the enemy are at work this a. m. on the slope of Clark's Mountain, above Somerville Ford, extending the line of intrenchments diagonally across the mountain. A small party is also digging near Raccoon Ford. Two brigades of infantry have just passed a point behind Raccoon Ford, moving toward Clark's Mountain. The last brigade was followed by two ambulances and two wagons.

TAYLOR.

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 26, 1864—5 p. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain MERRILL:

The enemy have been unusually active to-day, throwing up earthworks between Raccoon and Somerville Fords and on Clark's Mountain.

TAYLOR.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 26, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

All quiet. A small party of the enemy employed on the intrenchments before reported on Clark's Mountain.

McCLOSKEY.

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 26, 1864.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

Brigade of cavalry encamped last night near Barnett's Ford; moved in a southeast direction this morning. Enemy very busy on works all along our front.

WIGGINS.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

Scouting parties from beyond James City to-day report all quiet. No enemy in sight.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to forward a copy of a dispatch just received from General Torbert in relation to the train seen by the Sixth Corps pickets.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 26, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

I sent out a party yesterday to ascertain about a wagon train reported by Sixth Corps pickets. They could find no trace of the enemy or wagons. Report will be forwarded.

TORBERT,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
*Commanding Second Cavalry Division:*

The commanding officer at Grove Church reports withdrawal of scouting parties of the enemy and movement in direction of Orange Court-House. The cavalry moving in direction of Orange Court-House is W. H. F. Lee's brigade. Hampton, with two brigades, is down about Fredericksburg yet.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
*Third Cavalry Division:*

The First Vermont have been ordered to join you and will report to-morrow. I saw General Rawlins about the appointment we spoke about. General Grant being absent, General Rawlins will let me know in the morning by telegraph.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
*Third Cavalry Division:*

Order in your men at Grove Church.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 26, 1864. (Received 9.10 p. m.)

Major-General AUGUR:

I am very anxious to get the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, now on duty in Washington. Its absence breaks up one of my brigades. Cannot its place be supplied by one of the regiments at Giesborough Point?

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

---

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 26, 1864.
(Received 6.15 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I can start between 500 and 600 and as many infantry on Thursday as proposed. The party from Washington should start from here. I learn that the cavalry which were at Warrenton have gone to Culpeper. Please let me know as soon as possible your wishes, so that I can make the necessary disposition of troops.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April* 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR:

With Colonel Lowell in command of the cavalry I have no fear of trouble. I should send Colonel McMahon with the infantry.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

MARTINSBURG, *April* 26, 1864—2 a. m.
(Received 9.10 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper:*

I left Cumberland yesterday, after having made all arrangements for General Crook's command. All the troops sent to him will reach him to-day, the 26th, if nothing extraordinary happens. He telegraphed me that he would not be ready to move before two or three days, which would be on the 28th or 29th. He requested me to advance a small force from Beverly toward Huntersville, which I have done, in ordering the cavalry which was stationed at Beverly, about 300, to Pocahontas County. This involved the necessity of reoccupying Beverly with at least one regiment of infantry, which I intended to send east. It is understood that General Crook will march down from Lewisburg to the railroad, and after having done all the damage he can to return to Lewisburg or to a point between Lewisburg and Staunton.

From all information we have it appears to me that he will be successful, as his forces will be stronger than any force the enemy can concentrate between Lewisburg and the railroad at this moment. Here at Martinsburg I have now six regiments of infantry, with three batteries and 700 available cavalry. In two or three days I will have 500 cavalry more. This will then be the force on which I must rely. A party of 150 of our cavalry sent out yesterday met 300 of the enemy this side of Cedar Creek and were beaten back, losing 15 horses and 1 officer. The enemy were of Rosser's command. I will act according to circumstances with the forces I have, and move them forward on the 28th or 29th.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 26, 1864.

The following will be the organization of the troops in this department:

The First Infantry Division, Brig. Gen. J. C. Sullivan commanding, will comprise all the infantry regiments and batteries which may be assigned to him by special orders.

The Second Infantry Division, Brig. Gen. George Crook commanding, will comprise all the infantry regiments and batteries now under his command and to be assigned to him by special orders.

The First Cavalry Division, Maj. Gen. Julius Stahel commanding, will comprise all the cavalry formerly under command of Brig. Gen. W. W. Averell, except the First West Virginia and Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and will comprise also the Twentieth Pennsylvania, Twenty-second Pennsylvania, Second Maryland, and Fifteenth New York Cavalry.

The Second Cavalry Division, Brig. Gen. W. W. Averell commanding, will comprise the First West Virginia, Fourteenth Pennsylvania, Fifth West Virginia, Seventh West Virginia, and Eighth Ohio Cavalry; also the cavalry brigade of Brig. Gen. A. N. Duffié.

These divisions will be forthwith organized into brigades by their respective commanders.

The troops stationed and performing guard duty on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, between the Monocacy and Ohio Rivers, heretofore organized into the First and Second Separate Brigades, will comprise a division to be known as the Reserve Division of this department. Brig. Gen. Max Weber, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to the command; headquarters at Harper's Ferry.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 84. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April 26, 1864.*

I. It having been ascertained that there are in the county of Gilmer, W. Va., 150 persons suffering for the want of the necessaries of life, from the fact that that country is in an impoverished and destitute condition, and to whom issues of subsistence stores are absolutely necessary, the depot commissary at Clarksburg, W. Va., is hereby authorized and directed to make such issues to these persons, or so many of them as require relief from the Government, upon returns approved by the senior officer on duty at that station.

The quartermaster at that station will arrange, so far as practicable, to transport these subsistence stores to some convenient point in Gilmer County, where they will be turned over for distribution to some authorized agent or committee acting for and in behalf of the citizens.

* * * * * *

VII. Maj. Gen. Julius Stahel is hereby relieved from further duty as chief of cavalry, and will proceed to Martinsburg, W. Va., to assume command of the First Infantry Division and of his own (the First Cavalry Division), now there concentrating.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April 26, 1864—5 p. m.*

Major-General STAHEL:

Your dispatch received. Colonel Wilkinson is supposed to be at [Clarksburg]. He is ordered to relieve the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania by the Sixth Virginia Regiment and the Second Maryland. Brigadier-General Crook will probably not be ready for three or four days on account of the delay of our troops at Parkersburg. Has the Twenty-first [New York] advanced from Beverly, and has the Tenth Virginia Infantry fallen back to Beverly? Will Brigadier-General Sullivan be here soon? I have depended on the arrangements with the Sixth Virginia Cavalry going to Beverly, even if the Fourteenth Pennsylvania should be sent there, because this latter regiment has to join General Crook. It may now be sent to Beverly to re-enforce Colonel Harris. All the dismounted men of the Sixth Virginia should be ordered there at once. The mounted men may follow them after we can spare them. I cannot be responsible for any reverse if we can-

not re-enforce Colonel Harris, of the Tenth Virginia, at once. The troops at Beverly will join us as soon as we have arrived at Staunton and Lewisburg. They are only temporarily detached. Direct Captain Barringer to send all serviceable army wagons and ambulances which are not absolutely necessary to this place. We can rely only on twenty-five wagons from Hagerstown.

SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 26, 1864.

Major-General STAHEL:

Please come here to-morrow morning with 9 o'clock train, to take command of the two divisions assembled here. Take your staff and all your material with you.

SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 26, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Martinsburg:*

Your telegrams are received. I will start by the 9 o'clock morning train for Martinsburg. The Twenty-first New York Cavalry has advanced from Beverly. The Fourteenth Pennsylvania has been ordered to Beverly. The dismounted armed men of the Sixth Virginia will be ordered to-night to proceed to Beverly. The Tenth Virginia was ordered back to Beverly. General Sullivan will be here to-night. I will direct Captain Barringer, who will be here to-night, to send all serviceable army wagons and ambulances not absolutely needed to Martinsburg. A letter, marked "private and confidential," from headquarters Armies of the United States, inclosed in two envelopes, is received by to-night's mail.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 26, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Martinsburg:*

Captain Salisbury leaves to-night for Martinsburg, and takes the letter from headquarters Armies of the United States, with instructions to deliver it to-night.

JUL. STAHEL,
*Major-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 26, 1864.
(Received 1.25 p. m.)

Major-General STAHEL:

The enemy is very active in our front. Six prisoners, taken by our scouts to-day, report a considerable force this side of Woodstock, with a great scarcity of horses.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

CUMBERLAND, *April* 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. SULLIVAN,
*Grafton:*

Please direct Colonel Moor, Twenty-eighth Ohio, to move with his command forthwith to Martinsburg, W. Va.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE CROOK,
*Charleston, W. Va.:*

Major-General Stahel has been relieved as chief of cavalry and ordered to Martinsburg. Please send all communications formerly directed to be sent to him to department headquarters.

By order:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General CROOK,
*Charleston:*

The orders directing Captain Means' companies to proceed to Charleston have been revoked under instructions from the Secretary of War, they having been recruited for conditional service. The companies formerly at Buckhannon left some days ago to report to you.

By order:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HDQRS. MID. DEPT., 8TH ARMY CORPS,
*Baltimore, Md., April* 26, 1864.

Many citizens of this department have gone voluntarily into the States in rebellion against the United States, some to join the rebel army, others to aid and encourage the rebellion by their presence and otherwise, who have left their property, in real estate, slaves, stocks of various description, and other securities for money, in this department; and many citizens of the States in rebellion who have participated in and encouraged that movement have similar property within this department. It is deemed important that such property should not be under the control of such persons and liable to be used, in whole or in part, in the support of the rebellion and against the interests of the United States. It is therefore hereby ordered that the proceeds of all real estate, the hire of all slaves, the interest on all debts due from persons in this department, the current interest on all private debts, the dividends and interest on all stocks and bonds of railroad companies, banks, turnpike road companies, manufacturing companies, and public corporations, howsoever de-

cleared and payable, which are the property of the persons above described and are within this department, shall be withheld by the persons authorized, and whose duty it is to pay the same, from such persons, their representatives, agents, and attorneys, howsoever constituted, and that the same shall be paid over to Lieut. Col. Alexander Bliss, quartermaster of this department, or such other agent as the general commanding may authorize and appoint from time to time. All persons having authority over such property will be held responsible for such sums as may be paid in violation of this order, and be otherwise punished by military commission.

The hire and the proceeds of the labor of such slaves as are in the counties of Maryland in this department and belong to the persons above described will in due proportion be set apart and reserved for the use of such slaves, when they shall have been freed by the constitutional law of Maryland, as it is hoped they soon will be.

By command of Major-General Wallace:

SAMUEL B. LAWRENCE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

I have now a pontoon bridge over the Rappahannock at the railroad crossing, in addition to the railroad bridge, which is planked over and can be passed by wagons. I shall take up the pontoon bridge when my troops are relieved. If you require another one, Brigadier-General Benham, at Washington, has been directed to furnish it, with the necessary working party, to lay and take care of it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April* 26, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe, Va.:*

Lieutenant-General Grant telegraphs that he wishes New Berne held at all hazards, and that he would prefer to have everything removed from Washington, N. C., to having our forces in North Carolina picked off in detail, or to having our offensive operations abandoned to defend them.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. HARLAND,
*Commanding, Washington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: A very delicate duty is assigned to you; it is no less than the evacuation of Washington. This must be done speedily,

but as secretly as it is possible to do it. The guns from all the different forts must be removed and placed on board of transports that will be sent from here.

The First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers, under the command of its second officer, please to send to this place immediately by the Thomas Collyer.

We do not propose to destroy a particle of property of any description, as this movement is not being made in face of the enemy, as I do not think at this time they are near you, and this step is taken for the simple reason that Washington is of no strategic importance, and that it is not worth the expense which is required to hold it. We must recollect, however, general, that many persons, both white and black, have sought refuge within your lines, and they must not be abandoned. At the proper time, of which time you must be the best judge, you must notify all these people of your intention and give them the opportunity to leave for this place, if they desire it.

As to the best manner of removing the troops, I shall leave that to be settled between yourself and Colonel Dutton, chief of staff, who will carry this dispatch to you. It may be that it will be better to march troops from Washington across the country to this place after the ammunition, ordnance stores, &c., have been removed by the transports.

A forced march could perhaps move the whole garrison from that place to this in one night. You must, however, if possible, keep up the idea that there is no intention of evacuating Washington, and even after the guns and stores have all been removed a small force must be kept in the works, and they will hold them and the town, unless menaced by a very superior force, and then they can withdraw quietly to a gun-boat which will be left there, thus leaving nothing for the enemy if they come and take possession.

Keep your flags flying at the works, and I beg that you will select for those to remain until the last what you consider your most reliable troops, say 200 or 250 men, and place Colonel McChesney in command of them.

Colonel Dutton will explain to you all of my views, and he will, I am sure, render you all the assistance in his power. Much has to be left to your own good judgment, and it is therefore impossible to [give] any more particular instructions. It is my impression that the only work that it will be necessary to demolish is the little island fort.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 116.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
*Fort Monroe, Va., April 26, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

V. By direction of the lieutenant-general commanding Armies of the United States, Brig. Gen. James H. Ledlie, U. S. Volunteers, will report to the headquarters Army of the Potomac for orders.

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By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *April* 26, 1864.
(Received 12.15 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy:*

Will you please order by telegraph that all Farragut's tugs which were ordered to the Gulf last Sunday from New York be sent here as early as practicable; also, the Canonicus at New York and Saugus at New York and Eutaw at Washington? All the double-enders and tugs at New York should be hurried to this point.

G. V. FOX,
*Assistant Secretary of the Navy.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 27, 1864.
(Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Cannot the bridges between Bull Run and Rappahannock be held when we move from here by troops from Washington? Blockhouses have been built, so that 2,000 men would be sufficient whilst the army is in front. They should be supplied with thirty days' rations, so that there would be no necessity of sending cars over the road.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

Copy to General Augur April 29.

ROBERT N. SCOTT,
*Aide-de-Camp.*

---

CULPEPER, VA., *April* 27, 1864—1.30 p. m.
(Received 3.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

There are rumors brought in by deserters that Longstreet, re-enforced by Beauregard's troops, will move down the Shenandoah Valley. Should they do so, throw all the force you can to head them, taking, if General Burnside should still be north of the Rappahannock, all or as much of his force as necessary. If such a movement is commenced by the enemy after we start from here I will follow him with force enough to prevent his return south.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

CULPEPER, *April* 27, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
*Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

General Burnside's command leaves Alexandria this morning to take position between Bull Run and the Rappahannock. You can give orders to your troops to move to the front as soon as relieved and guards posted.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 27, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Maj. T. M. VINCENT:

Can you tell me when the two regiments of Shaler's brigade now at Sandusky will probably rejoin this army?

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 27, 1864—11 a. m.

E. L. WENTZ,
*General Superintendent*, or
M. J. MCCRICKETT,
*Assistant Superintendent U. S. Military Railroad:*

The commanding general directs that you furnish the commanding officer of the troops now coming on the railroad to relieve the troops of this army with a statement showing the details of all kinds now performing railroad service of any kind along the line of road, and that you request the commander to promptly relieve such details. The commanding general fully expects that every officer and man now doing railroad duty, belonging to this army, will be promptly returned to it. Please acknowledge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 27, 1864—4.50 p. m.

M. J. MCCRICKETT,
*Assistant Superintendent Military Railroad, Alexandria:*

Your dispatch received. General Meade desires that all troops belonging to the Army of the Potomac, whether employed as guards to trains, guards to construction parties, or as wood parties, be promptly relieved and sent to their regiments, and it is his wish that General Burnside be furnished with a statement showing where these detachments now are and what you will require for railroad service, so that our troops can be at once relieved.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 27, 1864.

Captain MERRILL:

About a brigade of the enemy's infantry pitched their tents last eve on the northeast slope of Clark's Mountain, near Somerville Ford. They are throwing up works on the slope of Clark's Mountain this a. m. and behind Raccoon Ford.

HOLLAND.

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April 27*, 1864.

Captain MERRILL,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

New camp seen below Barnett's Ford. Enemy busy on line of works. Artillery in position at Raccoon Ford.

WIGGINS and FULLER.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 27*, 1864—11.45 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

I have telegraphed for information respecting the two regiments of Shaler's brigade at Sandusky. General Meade thinks you had better provide the transportation as if they were here.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 27*, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

Major Vincent states that the two regiments of Shaler's brigade at Sandusky will probably leave that place to rejoin your command on Friday next.

S. WILLIAMS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *April 27*, 1864.
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Would like to have the Twenty-second New York keep their horses. Please have General Augur order the three cavalry regiments to proceed direct to Fairfax Court-House with five days' rations and 150 rounds ammunition each. Their transportation can be returned from Fairfax. All regiments to report to me had hereafter better go by way of Fairfax. I have given all the orders to that effect that I am authorized to do. The troops moved from here this morning.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 27*, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

Brigadier-General Briggs, at Alexandria; Colonel McCandless, at Bristoe Station, and Brigadier-General Griffin, at Rappahannock Station, can indicate to you where the troops of this army, acting as guards along the railroad and to be relieved by your command, are located. But in addition to these details are some small detachments performing special railroad service as wood-choppers, guards

for construction parties, &c. I have to request that you will also have these detachments relieved as soon as practicable, so that they can rejoin their regiments. Mr. Wentz, superintendent, or Mr. McCrickett, assistant superintendent, of the road, have been directed to inform you where these details are posted.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

I have a strong party out from the First Division with directions to go to Robertson River. Will it answer to delay the party ordered to Thoroughfare Mountain and beyond until this party gets back? The party will return by Waylandsburg, and may bring information. Please answer.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

The party sent out to Robertson River this morning has just returned. They went out via James City and returned south of Thoroughfare Mountain. They found no enemy on this side of the river, but report about 50 men at Russell's Ford, Robertson River.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General TORBERT,
*Commanding First Division, Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that Major-General Meade has sent word that the enemy have infantry at Wolftown, west of Madison Court-House, and directs that a party be sent out via Thoroughfare Mountain to ascertain if such is the case; that the party shall go as far as Robertson River, and perhaps Madison Court-House, to see what information can be picked up. General Sheridan notified General Meade of the party which went to Robertson River to-day, but unless it went on the Thoroughfare road to Robertson River he directs that you send a second party at once sufficiently strong to make it safe, the object being to collect information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. FORSYTH,
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April 27*, 1864.

Brigadier-General TORBERT,
*Commanding First Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: Agreeable to instructions of the general commanding, you will, to-morrow morning, send a brigade from your division on a reconnaissance to Madison Court-House. It has been reported that there is a force of infantry at Wolftown belonging to Longstreet's corps, and the general desires further efforts to ascertain if this report is true. He also desires to ascertain if the cavalry reported at Madison Court-House is a strong party. Great care will have to be taken by the officer in charge of this reconnaissance in the crossing of the river; only sufficient force to determine whether the cavalry is strong at the Court-House should cross the river. The object of the expedition is simply a reconnaissance. If you think there is much cavalry down the river toward Locust Dale, two additional regiments should afterward be sent out to James City as a support. Send also a signal officer with this party to take a look with a good glass from Thoroughfare Mountain. These instructions will supersede all others given. The signal officer will go with the brigade ordered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES W. FORSYTH,
*Chief of Staff.*

---

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April 27*, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
*Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Colonel Taylor, at Morrisville, reports all quiet in that section. He forwards a report from commanding officer at Grove Church that he learned from citizens who have taken the oath that there were 6,000 rebel cavalry at Fredericksburg on the 26th; that Longstreet's force is at Gordonsville. Colonel Taylor asks permission to send 100 men on a scout to Falmouth to obtain information.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

(Copy to General Humphreys.)

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FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, *April 27*, 1864.
(Received 10.30 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR:

The cavalry will start at daylight, and the infantry at noon to-morrow.

R. O. TYLER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D A. C.,
*Washington, April 27, 1864.*

The following order is republished for the information of all concerned:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON,
*April 7, 1863.*

The destruction of fences in the counties of Prince William, Loudoun, Alexandria, and Fairfax, Virginia, renders it necessary, for the cultivation of the land, that all farm stock should be confined or properly herded. It is accordingly ordered that stock found running at large, and not sufficiently herded, shall be seized and turned over to the provost-marshal, to be disposed of as the general commanding may direct, and the number and value thereof reported to these headquarters. Stock not herded or watched, so as to prevent their trespassing upon cultivated lands, will be regarded as running at large, and seized accordingly.

By command of Major-General Augur:

C. H. RAYMOND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CULPEPER *April 27, 1864—9 a. m.*
(Received 9.45 a. m.)

Major-General SIGEL, *Cumberland, Md.:*

Did you receive my letter fixing date of departure for expedition? Start it 2d of May, if not otherwise directed.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, VA., *April 27, 1864—8 a. m.*
(Received 9.40 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper Court-House:*

Your letter of the 24th instant in regard to Generals Crook and Averell is just received and communicated to General Crook.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CULPEPER, *April 27, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Major-General SIGEL, *Cumberland, Md.:*

There are indications and rumors of an intention on the part of the enemy to move a force down the Shenandoah Valley. Use every effort to get information as far up in that direction as you can, and report everything you learn.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *April 27, 1864.*
(Received 8 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Culpeper:*

Your dispatch in regard to a movement in the Shenandoah Valley received. I will do everything to find out and report.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

MARTINSBURG, *April* 27, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Six rebel prisoners, of Gilmor's battalion, were brought in yesterday. I examined them. They wish to be exchanged and go back to the Southern army, with the exception of an Irishman, a sailor, who wishes to take the oath of allegiance. I had a private interview with him and he says the following:

Longstreet's troops were encamped on last Saturday between Charlottesville and Gordonsville, on his way to Lee. He says that 2 men came from Richmond to join Gilmor's battalion, at Mount Jackson. They told him that Roland [?] was on the Peninsula, and that Wise has taken command at Charleston. Opinion prevails in the South that we have got tired of Charleston. He assures me that there is no truth in the rumor of Johnston having joined Lee's army; at least there was nothing known about it at Staunton and in the valley. He says that General Elzey, at Staunton, is authorized to strengthen his division, assisted by Marshal Kane, of Baltimore, from all Marylanders of Lee's army and other commands, but that Lee refused to let them go. Imboden has been made a major-general, and Gilmor is before a court-martial for robbing citizens on the railroad instead of destroying bridges and cars, when he made his last raid.

Our cavalry had a successful skirmish yesterday at Springfield, north of Romney.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, *April* 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. SIGEL,
*Martinsburg:*

Your dispatch received. I will be ready to move on the 2d of May. Will you please have a portion of the Eighth Ohio Cavalry ordered here at once, say, one battalion, to command this post, and let the remainder of the regiment draw and send their equipments and horses after them to this place?

GEORGE CROOK,
*Brigadier-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 85. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. J. C. Sullivan, U. S. Volunteers, is relieved from further duty at Webster, W. Va., and will proceed to Martinsburg, W. Va., to assume command of the First Infantry Division of this department, now there concentrating.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 27, 1864. (Received 12 m.)

Captain MCENTEE,
*Harper's Ferry:*

Longstreet's advance is at Wolftown, Madison County. He has two divisions of his old corps. General Polk lately here, but we cannot hear of his troops. We hear that Beauregard's advance is at Petersburg; also that Rosser is pushing down the valley.

GEO. H. SHARPE,
*Colonel, Provost-Marshal.*

---

POINT OF ROCKS, MD., *April* 27, 1864.

[General MAX WEBER:]

There was an effort made last night and this a. m. to cross the river with the cavalry, but it is impossible, as the river is too high.

Your obedient servant,

WALTER SAUNDERS,
*Capt., Comdg. Detach. 1st Md. Regt., Potomac Home Brig.*

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HDQRS. DETACHMENT SECOND BRIGADE,
*On the march, near Ravenswood, April* 27, 1864—7 a. m.

Capt. W. RUMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report my command at this point, ready again to resume the march. The transportation for forage, which was to have been furnished on the morning of the 24th instant, was not supplied until 1 a. m. on the 25th. At 7 o'clock, that date, I took up the march from Parkersburg with forty-three wagons and twelve ambulances. I moved as rapidly as the roads would possibly permit during the day, encamping for the night 1 mile from Belleville, on Pond Creek, all of the wagons arriving except the supply train of twenty-two six-mule wagons. These got fast on the mountain and it was not until 11.30 o'clock on the morning of the 26th that they arrived, after putting 10 mules to them and dragging them into camp one at a time. At noon on the 26th, after lightening the train by issuing the grain for one day, I moved forward again, reaching this point at 7 o'clock last evening. Lieutenant Wetmore, assistant adjutant-general, has arrived within half an hour with the train, after marching all afternoon and the entire night, leaving five wagons behind upset at the foot of a steep hill. There is a detail of 50 men and pulley-ropes getting them up, and the lieutenant informs me that they can be brought forward in two hours. I shall go back myself and assist in getting them forward. I never in my life saw such roads, or in such condition. I find it necessary at times to make entirely new roads and repair broken bridges. The mud in some places is so deep as to drag on the axles of the wagons, and the mules, who have been on the cars four days, taken out and hitched on the wagons, with no rest and but one feed, could not or would not pull at all, and the drivers, a greater portion of whom were hired at Parkersburg, knew nothing whatever of driving. Sixty, out with picket-ropes, have dragged the greater portion of the supply train from

Parkersburg. The train has really been on the march since the time of starting. Lieutenant Wetmore states that there is not one wagon in the train that has not been overturned, in some cases as many as six times. I shall keep the train moving constantly, and when the mules are completely worn out substitute horses from the command. The clay mud is of such a consistency as to be as tough as putty, and a large number of the horses have lost their shoes, which are being replaced as rapidly as possible from the extra ones in the saddle-bags. The delay is to me very vexatious, and I shall spare no exertions to hurry everything forward. It was a sad mistake to have attempted to send any portion of the command whatever by this road. Please assure the general commanding that I am aware of the urgency in having everything forward as soon as possible, and will exert any effort in my power to hurry them forward. The road between Pond Creek and this point was declared impassable by all I questioned.

I am, captain, very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 27, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

Dispatches from New Berne. All quiet at New Berne and Little Washington, N. C. Deserter captured reports Martin's brigade, of which he is a member, and other troops being forwarded, via Weldon, to Richmond, and railroad seized for that purpose. Do not apprehend further demonstration in North Carolina.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 27, 1864.
(Received 11.40 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper:*

Colonel Rowley has arrived. But one iron-clad here yet. Three more to come. Will not be here before Sunday; General Gillmore not before Saturday, if then. Six regiments of his troops behind, two of which are near Washington.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 117. } *Fort Monroe, Va., April* 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XI. Brig. Gen. Israel Vogdes is hereby temporarily relieved from duty in the Tenth Army Corps, and is ordered to report to General Shepley, to be assigned to the command of the Defenses of Norfolk and Portsmouth.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

EASTVILLE, VA., *April* 27, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

SIR: We are all right this morning. Have no trace of guerrillas yet. Have my men out scouting the necks and creeks. Hope we may come up with them. I fear they have gone up the sound on sea side. Have no means of following them there. If you would let me have 30 carbines and slings, 30 sabers and belts, and 80 pistols, with ammunition to suit them, it will be of great service and enable us to take care of these fellows when they come. I would much like to have them by the boat, and will send all proper papers by the mail to-morrow. I hope, sir, you can let me have these arms. Will you please let me know?

Respectfully,

R. E. DUVALL,
*Captain, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE F. SHEPLEY,
*Norfolk:*

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Vogdes, a very fine officer, has been ordered to report to you to be assigned to command of the line of defenses. This was done knowing that most of your time would be occupied in the internal affairs of your district, and that the line would necessarily be commanded by one of your colonels, and as that line is of great importance, the commanding general thought best to send you a good general officer that you could rely upon. I would suggest that he make his headquarters at either Portsmouth or at General Heckman's old headquarters. You will find General Vogdes a first-clas soldier, and you need not hesitate to intrust him to any extent in military matters.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
*Norfolk, Va., April* 27, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: I perceive that all ordnance stores have been transferred from Norfolk and Portsmouth to Fort Monroe. If possible, I would like to have you send me a good officer for ordnance officer. I think there should be a depot for ordnance stores at Portsmouth.

The Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops have been relieved, and I have ordered the Thirty-eighth to occupy the intrenched camps vacated by the Thirty-seventh. Colonel Dimon is making new enlistment papers for the First U. S. Volunteers, the mustering officer declining to muster them on their papers. I should like to be informed in advance of any orders to General Kautz in season to supply the place of the Pennsylvania cavalry on picket and outpost duty with the Twentieth New York. The enemy's pickets have appeared below South Mills, probably from Winton, to ascertain if

we are sending re-enforcements by way of the sound. A small scouting party of the enemy, who have a rumor that we have evacuated Norfolk to send troops to James River, appear beyond Suffolk to ascertain the facts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. F. SHEPLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April 27, 186-.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN J. PECK,
*Hdqrs. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: I have read your General Orders, No. 70, and I wish to call your attention to this paragraph: "Many of the troops have been in the field since the outbreak of the revolution." What revolution do you mean? The revolution of our ancestors against England? There has been no revolution in the United States since, but there has been and is a rebellion. It is not usual for officers in the United States to style the rebellion a revolution.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 27, 1864.*

Commander H. K. DAVENPORT, U. S. Navy,
*Comdg. Naval Forces District of North Carolina:*

SIR: I yesterday made you acquainted with my plans for evacuating Little Washington. Transports were sent there to bring away the forces and stores as quickly as possible. This morning, however, heavy firing has been reported in the direction of Little Washington, and it may be that they are attacked there. If you have a gun-boat that can be spared to go to Washington I will be much obliged to you if you will send her. She could be useful in carrying dispatches there, and she may be very much needed either for assisting in the defense or in the bringing away of the men and stores. If you will direct Captain Renshaw to let his forces assist in removing the stores and in bringing them here it would materially assist us, as we have but few transports now here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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WASHINGTON, *April 28*, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

General Augur has been stripped of almost everything available to give to General Burnside. When the trains cease to run the guards under General Briggs can be placed in the block-houses, between Bull Run and the Rappahannock. I will also give him the Massachusetts detached artillery as soon as it arrives. No troops are yet available to replace Abbot's artillery in the fortifications. Perhaps some

militia or invalids from the West may arrive in time. If not, we must weaken the other garrisons. There is very little left outside of Burnside's command to use against any movement of Longstreet. The Navy Department says that one iron-clad left New York and one left Philadelphia on the 26th, and should reach Fortress Monroe to-day. The one from Boston touched at New York, and will leave there to-morrow.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 28, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

There are no troops now at Warrenton. Gregg's division of cavalry has been there all winter, but is now on the Warrenton railroad 3 miles from the junction. I propose to move him to-morrow or next day across the Rappahannock. I see no occasion for the permanent occupation of Warrenton, except to keep out Mosby's men. This can be done by scouting parties from the junction. I have telegraphed about Gregg to General Burnside.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

HARPER'S FERRY, *April* 28, 1864—5.30 p. m.
(Received 5.40 p. m.)

Col. GEORGE H. SHARPE:

Deserters who come in to-day report Longstreet's advance at Sperryville. Beauregard, with a large force, near Richmond. Ex-Governor Wise has taken Beauregard's place at Charleston. Rosser's command, about 1,500 strong, but in bad condition, recruiting horses near Natural Bridge, in Rockbridge County. Imboden at Mount Crawford. Rosser marched from near Weyer's Cave to Chancellorsville, in March, to catch Kilpatrick on his return, then back to his present position. Repeated long marches during the winter have used him up.

JOHN McENTEE,
*Captain, &c.*

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 28, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

No working parties of the enemy visible this a. m. on Clark's Mountain. A small body of men at Raccoon Ford strengthening works at that point.

PAINE.

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STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 28, 1864—10 a. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain FISHER:

The large camp of the enemy on the line of the Orange Court-House and Fredericksburg pike, in a southwesterly direction from this station, appears much thinner than heretofore. No change on the river front and no working parties seen this a. m.

TAYLOR.

STONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 28, 1864—5 p. m.

General HANCOCK and
Captain FISHER:

All quiet. Cavalry and infantry drills near Clark's Mountain this p. m. Lieutenant Holland visited the river front near Raccoon Ford to-day and reports about 50 of the enemy digging on the river bank directly in rear of the ford. He saw their guns in position at the ford, one of heavy caliber, and a party cutting embrasures in the work for another gun.

TAYLOR.

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PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 28, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

All quiet. About 200 of the enemy working on intrenchments heretofore reported at Raccoon Ford, and about 1 mile to the right. The cavalry sent out on a reconnaissance this a. m. has returned.

McCLOSKEY.

---

CULPEPER, *April* 28, 1864—11 p. m.
(Received 1 a. m., 29th.)

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Warrenton Junction, Va.:*

There are no troops at Warrenton. None are necessary.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

---

MANASSAS JUNCTION, VA., *April* 28, 1864.
(Received 3.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Head of my column now here in good condition. Encamp at Bristoe to-night, and hope to relieve all of Meade's men to-morrow.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Major-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 161. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, April* 28, 1864.

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32. Maj. Gen. T. L. Crittenden, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person without delay to Major-General Burnside, U. S. Volunteers, for assignment to duty.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

W. A. NICHOLS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 28, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Our cavalry charged into Madison Court-House about 11 a. m. Found only 30 rebels. No indications of the presence of the enemy in force in this section.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

I reported to you about 12 o'clock the result of the expedition to Madison Court-House. No infantry at Wolftown. A detailed report will be forwarded in the morning.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

A small party of rebel cavalry, 22 or 23 men, made their appearance this morning at Ely's Ford.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General, Commanding Corps.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 28, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN, *Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that General Gregg's division be moved to Paoli Mills, or some convenient point in that vicinity, crossing the Rappahannock at Kelly's Ford, where a bridge will be established by the engineers to-morrow, and taken up as soon as they have crossed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

The following report just received from General Gregg, commanding Second Division Cavalry:

Lieut. Col. J. W. FORSYTH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

Colonel Taylor reports all quiet at Morrisville and Grove Church. One guerrilla captured at Warrenton.

D. McM. GREGG,
*Brigadier-General.*

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 23. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 28, 1864.

I. It is the professional business of rebel agents and spies, as it is the pleasure of rebel sympathizing citizens, within our lines to originate and spread false rumors in regard to the strength of the enemy, his positions and his movements, for the purpose of misleading the military authorities and alarming the loyal portion of the people. To suppress as far as possible this practice, so fruitful of evil, officers and soldiers are directed to refrain from conversing with citizens upon military matters, and to report to the nearest commanding officer or provost-marshal the name of any citizen who pretends to have or give information of the enemy, that he may be arrested, examined, and held accountable for the truth of his reports.

II. In accordance with instructions from the Adjutant-General's Office, so much of General Orders, No. 17, current series, from these headquarters, as prescribes that enlisted men who are found to be proper subjects for transfer to the Navy shall be sent to Baltimore, Md., is revoked, and they will be sent hereafter to Philadelphia, Pa.

By order of Major-General Sigel:

THAYER MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 28, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 9.10 a. m., 29th.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

General Crook will be prepared to move on the 2d of May. He telegraphs me so. I informed him that he shall move on that day.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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MARTINSBURG, W. VA., *April* 28, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 6 a. m., 29th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper, Va.:*

I will move to-morrow to Bunker Hill, 12 miles south of Martinsburg. No further news received in regard to the enemy, except that Longstreet's forces are supposed to be in Page County. This, however, is only the report of a refugee, who learned it at Winchester on his way from Harrisonburg. There is an excellent road leading from Madison Court-House by Criglersville and Ragged Mountain to Luray. This road is not marked on Lloyd's map. I believe that if Longstreet is on the left of Lee's army he has sent a force on that road to Luray, Page County. He may follow with his corps, and either march to Front Royal or throw his troops from Luray across the Shenandoah. There are two or three fords by which he can pass from Luray into the Shenandoah Valley. I will report again to-morrow. It is difficult to get much positive information, as the cavalry here is in a wretched condition, and can hardly protect my scouting parties.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 86. HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Cumberland, Md., April* 28, 1864.

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IV. The First Cavalry Division and First Infantry Division of this department will advance to-morrow, April 29, to Bunker Hill and vicinity. Special instructions will be received by the commanding officers of these divisions from Maj. Gen. Julius Stahel, to whom they will report for orders.

By order of Major-General F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13. HDQRS. 3D DIV., DEPT. OF W. VA., *Charleston, W. Va., April* 28, 1864.

The following-named regiments, having reported at these headquarters, are assigned as follows: Third Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Reserve Corps, Col. H. G. Sickel; Fourth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Reserve Corps, Col. R. H. Woolworth; Eleventh Regiment Virginia Volunteer Infantry, Col. D. Frost; Fifteenth Regiment Virginia Volunteer Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Morris, will form a brigade to be designated as the Third Brigade Infantry, and will be commanded by Col. H. G. Sickel, Third Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Reserve Corps.

The Thirty-sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Col. H. F. Devol, is assigned to duty in the First Brigade, Col. R. B. Hayes, Twenty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commanding.

The Fourteenth Regiment Virginia Volunteer Infantry, Col. D. D. Johnson, is assigned to duty in the Second Brigade, Col. C. B. White, Twelfth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commanding.

By command of Brig. Gen. George Crook:

JAMES L. BOTSFORD,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 28, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL,
*Martinsburg:*

Colonel Moor reports his troops arrived, and asks if he will take Keeper's battery along. Twenty-eighth [Ohio] has no transportation.

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CUMBERLAND, *April* 28, 1864.

Col. A. MOOR,
*Webster:*

The general commanding directs that Keeper's battery remain at Webster until further orders. You will therefore proceed with your regiment to Martinsburg.

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CUMBERLAND, *April* 28, 1864.

Major-General STAHEL, *Martinsburg:*

Colonel Wynkoop with mounted portion of his command left at 3 p. m.

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CUMBERLAND, *April* 28, 1864.

Col. N. WILKINSON, *New Creek:*

Captain Jaehne's company, Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry, at Webster, was ordered to report to you. It is reported that a portion refused to obey, claiming their term has expired. You will take steps to enforce the orders.

By command of Major-General Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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APRIL 28, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: Disloyalty is cropping out so boldly in the counties of Kent, Queen Anne, Caroline, Talbot, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, that I will have to proclaim martial law over them. To enforce the proclamation seven companies of infantry are necessary, one for each county. Without stripping the forts of their garrison, such a force is not available in my department. I am therefore compelled to request at least that many companies be ordered to my command.

It is proper to say that the counties named are now occupied by Maryland cavalry, who were recruited from their population, and have been so long stationed amongst them that they are not now, if they ever were, as well fitted for the duty referred to as strangers will be. Besides that, I am desirous of making such a redisposition of the force now in my department as will enable me to bring all my cavalry, such as it is, into the territory south of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. This I cannot do without draining my forts of their defenses or requesting the additional force above stated.

I beg the Secretary of War to understand that I would not make this application if it was not, in my judgment, absolutely essential to enable me to administer to his satisfaction the affairs of this department.

Very respectfully,

LEW. WALLACE,
*Major-General, Commanding Middle Department.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 28, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General POPE,
*Milwaukee, Wis.:*

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that you send all the infantry you can possibly spare to Washington at once.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

CULPEPER, VA., *April* 28, 1864—1.30 p. m.
(Received 1.40 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff:*

Has any but the one iron-clad gone to Fort Monroe? General Butler states that but one has reached there.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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FORT MONROE, *April* 28, 1864.
(Received 10.45 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Captain Clarke, of my staff, has just returned from North Carolina. Reports North Carolina relieved from rebel troops that have gone to Virginia.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April* 28, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

If no unforeseen accident prevents, I will move from here on Wednesday, the 4th of May. Start your forces on the night of the 4th, so as to be as far up the James River as you can get by daylight the morning of the 5th, and push from that time with all your might for the accomplishment of the object before you. Should anything transpire to delay my movement I will telegraph. Acknowledge the receipt of this by telegraph. Everything possible is now being done to accumulate a force in Washington from the Northern States, ready to re-enforce any weak points. I will instruct General Halleck to send them to you should the enemy fall behind his fortifications in Richmond. You will therefore keep the headquarters at Washington advised of every move of the enemy so far as you know them.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 28, 1864.

Rear-Admiral LEE,
*Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:*

ADMIRAL: I have received your note containing information received from Mr. Davis off Wilmington. Later information brought to me puts Beauregard's advance at Petersburg, on their way to Richmond and Lee's army in Virginia. Captain Clarke, of my staff, has just come up, and reports the rebel troops all leaving North Carolina. Plymouth is evacuated, and Little Washington and New Berne are relieved from all threats of operations.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
*Norfolk, Va., April 28, 1864.*

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 27th instant. The assignment of General Vogdes relieves me from the necessity I should otherwise have been under of moving my headquarters to the vicinity of the line of defenses, as I had no officer to whom I could at present have committed the charge of that line. General Kautz is now at headquarters formerly occupied by General Heckman. General Vogdes' headquarters will be at or near Portsmouth. He will have the Twentieth New York Cavalry, eight companies; Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery, four companies; Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, and one light battery, and such infantry force as shall be determined on after consultation with him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. F. SHEPLEY,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 28, 1864.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*A. A. G., Hdqrs. Dept. Va. and N. C., Fortress Monroe, Va.:*

MAJOR: Since my last communication to the general the various movements of troops in this district necessary for the carrying out the plans of the major-general commanding have been pushed as rapidly as possible.

A copy of my instructions to General Harland, commanding at Little Washington, I inclose. General Harland wrote yesterday to me informing me that he is carrying out my instructions as rapidly as he can. The enemy's pickets are in sight of him toward Plymouth. I have sent to Washington all the transportation I can raise. Schooners are towed up for the purpose of bringing away the contrabands. The First North Carolina Regiment is here. They have with them some 300 women and children. I shall make the best use of them I can, but these Carolina regiments are a great drag upon us at such a time as this.

In this connection I will state that it has become a positive necessity to occupy the hospital (general) buildings at Beaufort or Morehead City for these Carolina families. I am sorry to be obliged to take this measure of sheltering them, and the buildings will be vacated as soon as possible. I hope you will make my peace with the medical director for this. Three thousand contrabands will be here from Washington alone. I wish very much that Captain James could be here to provide for them.

I write very hastily, and I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND,
*Comdg. Sub-dist. of the Pamlico, Little Washington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Commander Davenport has complied with my request to send the gun-boat Commodore Barney to assist in the defense of the place if a fight is forced upon you while you are evacuating the place.

This morning firing is reported in the direction of Washington, and, of course, I feel very anxious to know what is going on there. You know perfectly my idea, and all that has been directed is known and approved of by the commanding general of the department. As I informed you in my letter of yesterday, much has to be left to your own good judgment. If we can get your command safely here we will be secure against any attack, I think, and it will not be many days before the pressure is removed from this district. Commander Davenport will probably direct Captain Renshaw to give you all the assistance in every way in his power.

The Barney could bring away a great many guns and stores, and I hope the Valley City will bring everything she possibly can.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 28, 1864.*

Commodore H. K. DAVENPORT,
*Senior Naval Officer in the Sounds of North Carolina:*

SIR: The movement now in execution at Little Washington is of a very delicate nature, and gun-boats lying in the river give our own troops confidence and intimidate the enemy. Can you not send one of your largest boats to lie off Hill's Point? Please give me your views about the matter. It has occurred to me that a boat like the Tacony or the Sassacus stationed there during this emergency would be of great importance in preventing the enemy from occupying points below the town.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 28, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND,
*Washington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday I have just received. The Rucker and Collyer have also arrived here, and as soon as they can be unloaded they will be returned to you, with all the other transportation that we can raise. I have also made a request of Captain Davenport to send a large-class gun-boat to lay off Hill's Point, in order that you may be sure of always finding the river below open. Rest assured, general, that I am not unmindful of you, and that everything that we can possibly do to make your delicate under-

taking a successful one will be done. I shall try to have a lot of schooners towed up to you for the purpose of receiving the contrabands.

Should you upon the whole consider it better to entirely leave Washington, you are at liberty to abandon it entirely. As I have before stated to you, it is of no strategic importance, and when I first wrote of holding it with a small force it was for the purpose of protecting all loyal citizens and others who might not be able to get away for some weeks.

Fortunately for us at this time we have a good supply of gunboats, large and small, and I anticipate no interference with us on the river. When Colonel Dutton left it was not fully understood that I should send a cavalry force across the country; a small force, however, has been ordered across to-day to ascertain the state of the roads. It would, of course, facilitate matters if the march across the country could be made. The families of the North Carolinians, which I fancy was one of your principal troubles, are fortunately now out of your way.

If you desire that Colonel Dutton remain, keep him by all means for the present, and whenever you consider it the proper time for him to leave yourself, please report to me at this place.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 28, 1864.*

Col. J. W. SAVAGE,
*Twelfth New York Cavalry*
(Through Colonel Amory, comdg. Sub-district of New Berne, N. C.):

COLONEL: The commanding general wishes you to select two good commissioned officers and 30 picked men of your regiment for a scout toward Little Washington. Transportation for Fort Anderson will be in readiness at Foster's Wharf.

You will instruct the commandant of the scout to proceed at least half way to Little Washington, with the object in view to discover if possible whether or not the road from here to Little Washington is not only clear of the enemy but the obstructions of any kind. It may be possible that your party will meet cavalry scouts from General Harland on a similar mission. You will instruct your officer accordingly. It is not the intention of the commanding general that this party should engage the enemy any further than may be necessary to accomplish the object of the scout.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
*April 28, 1864.*

Captain JUDSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

A refugee has this moment come in from Kinston. He left there last night. The ram was to have come down last Monday. Troops

had orders to come along, but the ram got stuck quarter of a mile from where she was built. They are now trying to raise her, but the general feeling is that the ram can't come down, "she" drawing 9 feet. Beaureguard commands the Department of North Carolina. Hoke has been made a major-general. Pickett has been ordered to General Lee. Corse's brigade is now at Kinston.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
*Colonel, Commanding Outposts.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Near Portsmouth, Va., April 28, 1864.*

I. In obedience to General Orders, No 47, April 20, 1864, current series, headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, the undersigned assumes command of the cavalry of this district.

II. This command will constitute a division, composed as follows:

First Brigade: Third New York Cavalry, First District of Columbia Cavalry; commanded by Col. S. H. Mix, Third New York Cavalry.

Second Brigade: Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry; commanded by Col. S. P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.

III. Capt. M. Asch is announced as acting assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters.

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Chief of Cavalry.*

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CULPEPER, *April 29*, 1864.
(Received 2 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Send all the horses for the Army of the Potomac here instead of mounting men there. Horses are now worth more than men and horses.

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

Copy with orders to Lieutenant-Colonel Ekin, April 29, 1864.
R. N. S.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April 29*, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

General Burnside has just been here. He will have relieved all my troops by 8 a. m. to-morrow. He has returned to Warrenton Junction for the night, and will take an engine and run up to Culpeper to-morrow if you desire it and so advise him by telegraph.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

HARPER'S FERRY, *April* 29, 1864—4.30 a. m.
(Received 6.45 p. m.)

Col. G. H. SHARPE,
*Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

A reliable man who left Little Washington and Sperryville on Sunday last, and Luray Court-House on Monday, states that Longstreet was not then in that vicinity, but it was well understood there that he was in the neighborhood of Gordonsville, in easy supporting distance of Lee. It was also reported there that Beauregard was on the way to Richmond with a large force.

JOHN McENTEE,
*Captain, &c.*

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ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 29, 1864.

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
*First Connecticut Artillery:*

COLONEL: I have received your letter of the 26th April, and am gratified at the progress you are making.

I had not heard of the failure of the 4½-inch gun to stand the same test as the Parrotts, but either would be good enough, probably. I have seen Comstock about the two regiments. He thinks with me it would be well not to agitate the matter now, but there will probably be no trouble in getting the order, when the time comes for you to move, to take the entire brigade. I would therefore, so far as possible, prepare both regiments for the work. I understand that in addition to the siege howitzers you will have there are now disposable six 100-pounder Parrotts, with 500 rounds of ammunition each, part of them at Old Point, and that there will soon be nineteen ready. There is one point on which we should be safe—the supply of sandbags. The engineers will supply a large number, but not enough, I fear, for contingencies. As they are enumerated by the Ordnance Department as amongst the ordnance stores for a siege train, it would be well to get 500 bags per gun. This is considered by all of us as important and necessary.

Very truly, yours,

HENRY J. HUNT.

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GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 29, 1864.

Captain FISHER,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

Regiment of cavalry moved in the direction of Barnett's Ford. Small baggage train with it. Has halted.

WIGGINS.

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 29, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

Heavy column of smoke rising from woods behind Sisson's Ford. Two regiments of infantry drilling on the summit of Clark's Mountain. Been down the river; found nothing unusual. All quiet.

TAYLOR.

PONY MOUNTAIN, *April* 29, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

Atmosphere this p. m. favorable for observation. Enemy appear to have devoted considerable labor in finishing their works in several places, either with sod or bushes. Do not observe any important changes from previous reports.

PAINE.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 29, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

I have had a detachment of cavalry at Morrisville and another at Grove Church, watching the lower fords of the Rappahannock. They will be withdrawn to-day, as they belong to Gregg, who is moving to Paoli Mills.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 29, 1864—4 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Warrenton Junction:*

It would be well to have some force at Morrisville, to keep the enemy's scouts and guerrillas from harassing you. It was for this purpose and to watch reported movements of Stuart's cavalry that I sent my cavalry. I will direct General Gregg, so long as he remains at Paoli Mills (near Kelly's Ford), to send scouting parties across the Rappahannock toward Falmouth.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 29, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to say that as General Burnside has no cavalry, General Gregg will not draw in the detachment now at Grove Church until he receives orders to move. General Burnside will send some infantry to Morrisville.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
*Major-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:*

I have the honor to report Brigadier-General Gregg's division comfortably encamped at Paoli Mills. Trains all in and bridge taken up.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*April* 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
*Chief of Staff:*

Deserters report that Longstreet's forces left Charlottesville about ten days ago and marched in the direct line of Fredericksburg or Hanover Junction.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

I suppose the examination here will establish which direction Longstreet's forces took.

A. A. H.

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HDQRS. FIRST PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE CAVALRY,
*April* 29, 1864.

Capt. F. L. TREMAIN,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Second Cavalry Division:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the scout sent out last night has just returned. The party left Grove Church at 1 a. m.; reached Falmouth before daylight. The advance guard entered the town, while the balance remained some distance back in concealment. They found no enemy in the town and report it almost deserted. The detachment remained until after daylight, when several cavalry camps and an extensive park of wagons could be seen along the heights of the opposite side, and they learned from citizens that two large cavalry camps had been removed yesterday, this cavalry, with a heavy body of infantry which came on the plank road from direction of Orange Court-House, moving down the river from Fredericksburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding Regiment.*

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MARTINSBURG, *April* 29, 1864.

[Brig. Gen. MAX WEBER:]

It will be a very difficult thing to use dismounted cavalry without the proper number of officers, but the line from Harper's Ferry to Martinsburg and beyond will be much safer as soon as we have established our line at Bunker Hill. Good non-commissioned officers should take care of the dismounted cavalry guarding the road. Colonel Rodgers will be under your command until he leaves Martinsburg. Colonel Wilkinson, stationed at New Creek, is commanding a brigade under your orders. He has the Sixth Virginia raised to guard the railroad; also the Second Maryland, now at Greenland Gap, 22 miles southwest of New Creek, and the rest of the Twenty-third Illinois Infantry at New Creek. Colonel Harris, of the Tenth Virginia, commanding at Beverly, has to report to Colonel Wilkinson.

F. SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 87. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA, *Martinsburg, W. Va., April* 29, 1864.

1. The Thirtieth and Thirty-second New York Independent Batteries, Capt. Charles Kusserow commanding, will remain at this station until further orders.

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By order of Maj. Gen. F. Sigel:

T. MELVIN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Washington, April* 29, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
*Fort Monroe:*

General Stannard has been ordered to report to you; also Brigadier-Generals Ferry and Martindale. The number of brigadiers allowed by law is filled up, so that there is no vacancy just now for Major Ludlow; but two or three will probably be mustered out next week, in which case there will be a vacancy for his nomination.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War.*

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
*Culpeper Court-House, Va., April* 29, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
*Chief of Staff of the Army:*

GENERAL: If General Gillmore reaches Fort Monroe in time, and if four of the iron-clads promised by the Navy are also there, our advance will commence on the 4th of May.

General Butler will operate on the south side of James River, Richmond being his objective point. I will move against Lee's army, attempting to turn him by one flank or the other. Should Lee fall back within his fortifications at Richmond, either before or after giving battle, I will form a junction with Butler, and the two forces will draw supplies from the James River. My own notions about our line of march are entirely made up, but as circumstances beyond my control may change them, I will only state that my effort will be to bring Butler's and Meade's forces together.

The army will start with fifteen days' supplies; all the country affords will be gathered as we go along. This will no doubt enable us to go twenty or twenty-five days without further supplies, unless we should be forced to keep in the country between Rapidan and the Chickahominy, in which case supplies might be required by way of the York or the Rappahannock Rivers. To provide for this contingency I would like to have about 1,000,000 rations and 200,000 forage rations afloat, to be sent wherever it may prove they will be required. The late call for one hundred days' men ought to give us all the old troops in the Northern States for the field. I think full 2,000 of those in the West ought to be got to Nashville as soon as possible. Probably it would be as well to assemble all the balance

of the re-enforcements for the West at Cairo. Those that come to the East I think should come to Washington, unless movements of the enemy yet to develop should require them elsewhere. With all our reserves at two or three points you will know what to do with them when they come to be needed in the field.

If the enemy fall back, it is probable General Butler will want all the force that can be sent to him. I have instructed him, however, to keep you constantly advised of his own movements and those of the enemy so far as he can.

General Burnside will not leave his present position between Bull Run and the Rappahannock until the 5th of May. By that time the troops to occupy the block-houses, with their rations, should be out. If they cannot be sent from Washington, I will have to require General Burnside to furnish the detail from his corps. When we get once established on the James River there will be no further necessity of occupying the road south of Bull Run. I do not know as it will be necessary to go so far south as that. In this matter, your opportunity of knowing what is required being far superior to mine, I will leave it entirely to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
*Fort Monroe, April* 29, 1864.

Count HENRI MARIVAULT,
*Comdg. His Imperial Majesty's Ship Tisiphone:*

CAPTAIN: The time limited by the convention between the two governments having expired was sufficient reason why His Imperial Majesty's vessel should return from City Point. I had the honor when I saw you before you went up to warn you that your stay could not be prolonged beyond that time, unless by a new order, and I supposed and expected that you would have returned in time to have been here on the 23d without further notice, but probably from an imperfect understanding of the language in which the conference was carried on you did not comprehend the fact that you were so expected to return; therefore, when the time expired, I sent you a request to return, and that request was in the course of my duty as an officer of the United States, and relieved you from all responsibility because of complying with it and returning to Fortress Monroe.

At the earliest hour in which you arrived here I forwarded the communications of the representatives of your Government, copies of them, translations of which were furnished me, and so far as I could understand it there was no occasion to forward them earlier.

Trusting that this communication will accomplish all you desire, please accept, captain, assurances of my continued respect and personal regard.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
*Culpeper Court-House, Va., April 29, 1864.*

[Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH:]

DEAR GENERAL: Your letter of the 26th, Yorktown, reached me last night. I showed it to Comstock, who entered into the spirit of it, and during the evening had a talk with the general upon the subject, though not mentioning your letter. The general is very fixed in letting Butler have his own way with all minutiæ. He was so firm in the matter that Comstock and I both think he would decline at once if asked direct to send such staff officer. The general thinks General Butler has sufficient number of able generals to render him all necessary aid to execute the details, and he has indicated his starting point and objective point. I would send your letter to Wilson, but I am sure Comstock has more influence than he (Wilson). The general is quite well. You did not speak of Bowen's being with you. He was ordered some time ago. I hope he is not sick again. Burnside is in his position this morning. Comstock came in from Nashville last night. General Sherman is feeling quite well and nearly ready. A Captain Montgomery, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, wished me to ask for a place on your staff. I promised, but knowing you would not want that kind I have not done so before. No chief engineer yet. Rumor says Halleck is to be the one intended by the President. We have no news. Banks' official reports make out his battle a victory, but it was without doubt a disgraceful defeat the first day. Banks retook three pieces only of artillery. My kind regards to all your staff; also to Madam Smith. I shall expect to meet you in Richmond, if not before.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

O. E. B[ABCOCK].

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YORKTOWN, *April 29, 1864.*

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
*Chief of Staff:*

I understood the general that the troops to go to West Point were those that were to land last. If that is the case you must give me more information than I possess before I can make the detail. Is the work to be begun now, or only when the order to move comes? The quartermaster must furnish transportation and lumber. Do you think that particular move will fool any one?

W. F. SMITH,
*Major-General.*

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FORTRESS MONROE, *April 29, 1864.*

General SMITH,
*Yorktown:*

I have telegraphed Terry to have a brigade in readiness to move to-morrow morning with ten days' rations and 60 rounds of ammunition. You will issue such orders as are necessary to effect the object desired at West Point. Transportation is ordered up for the purpose. They had better leave to-morrow by noon.

J. W. SHAFFER,
*Colonel and Chief of Staff.*

HDQRS. U. S. TROOPS AT YORKTOWN AND GLOUCESTER PT.,
*Yorktown, Va., April 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
*Comdg. Tenth Army Corps, Gloucester Point, Va.:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to be in readiness to send a brigade to West Point to-morrow, the 30th instant. The major-general also directs that if you have an engineer company they must also be ready to move with the brigade to repair the landing at that place. You will have the command furnished with eight days' rations. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CAMPBELL TUCKER,
*First Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HDQRS. U. S. TROOPS AT YORKTOWN AND GLOUCESTER PT.,
*Yorktown, Va., April 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
*Comdg. Tenth Army Corps, Gloucester Point, Va.:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the brigade ordered to be in readiness to move to-morrow shall be furnished with ten days' rations instead of eight, as before directed. The major-general also directs that 200 or 300 intrenching tools be sent with the brigade. Further instructions will be sent you to-morrow.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CAMPBELL TUCKER,
*First Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HEADQUARTERS OF DIVISION,
*Camp Hamilton, Va., April 29, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
*Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:*

GENERAL: In view of the approaching campaign, and more especially on account of the recent inhumanities of the enemy perpetrated upon troops of like character to those of my command, I deem it my duty to urge that these troops shall be more efficiently armed, to enable them to defend themselves and lessen their liability to capture.

There certainly ought to be no objection to arming these troops with as effective a weapon as any that are placed in the hands of white soldiers, who are to go into battle with none of the peculiar disadvantages to which my men will be subject. The present arms of several regiments in the division are inferior in kind and manufacture. The Springfield rifled musket of the Bridesburg manufacture is an unreliable gun. The contract Enfield rifle is also unreliable, and one regiment is armed with the old Harper's Ferry smooth-bore. Now, these arms will, perhaps, answer for troops who will be well cared for if they fall into his hands, but to troops who cannot afford

to be beaten, and will not be taken, the best arm should be given that the country can afford.

The retaliation we should at present adopt is to arm our colored troops with Spencer repeating rifles, and I request that my division, or a part of them, may be armed with a repeating or breech-loading fire-arm.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. W. HINKS,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 29, 1864.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*A. A. G., Hdqrs. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

MAJOR: The last news from General Harland, commanding at Little Washington, was dated yesterday, the 28th instant, 3 o'clock p. m., in which he says that he had not yet sent the Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania and the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, in consequence of the presence of the enemy in his immediate vicinity. He had embarked both regiments on the 27th instant, but he finally decided to detain them until last night. General Harland is of the opinion, however, that he will still be able to get those regiments to Fort Monroe by 30th instant.

General Harland has sent three companies of cavalry and the Twenty-third New York Light Battery, with twelve wagons, across the country to New Berne. The party arrived safely at Fort Anderson at 8 o'clock this a. m. I have sent all my available steam transportation, with some six schooners in tow, to Washington, and with this and the road across the country open, I expect by to-morrow night to have everything out of Washington and well on the way to this place. General Harland has some 3,000 negroes, which he has sent to Hill's Point, below Washington, from which place they can, I think, all be safely removed aboard the transports.

A refugee from Kinston has just come in. He says that on Monday the ram started, escorted by one brigade of infantry, but that after she had got only some few hundred yards from the place of departure she ran hard aground. They were making every effort to float her off, but the very low stage of the water and the strong blockade erected here will undoubtedly be, for the present at least, our sufficient protection. My opinion is that this brigade was sent with her to remove any obstacles she might encounter, and that they sent so large a force, well knowing that we have but a small garrison here, and that we could not afford to march out and give them battle.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 29, 1864.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

MAJOR: I beg leave to call the attention of the commanding general to the fact that a very large supply of subsistence stores are

arriving here. As many as 30,000 barrels have been ordered here from New York. I thought it not improbable that this immense amount of rations was ordered here when more extensive operations were contemplated in North Carolina. If the necessity for these rations no longer exists, is it advisable to be sending such immense quantities here?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. E. HARLAND,
*Little Washington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that your communication, dated at 3 p. m. yesterday, was received at 8 o'clock a. m. The steamer Louisa Moore has arrived here from New York, loaded with commissary stores, and has been partially unloaded. The general has ordered her to Hill's Point, to bring away whatever you desire to send upon her. Every possible transportation will be sent you. When vessels arrive they will not even be unloaded, but will be sent immediately to you.

The troops sent across the country by you arrived safely this a. m. at 8 o'clock, without loss.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. F. WARD, JR.,
*Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, *April* 30, 1864—10.35 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
*Culpeper:*

A rebel captain, who came within our lines as a deserter, was arrested in Baltimore to-day. General Wallace sends a long statement by him as to the position of the enemy's forces, their condition, &c., the principal points of which will be telegraphed to-night, and the whole statement by mail. I have ordered the prisoner here for examination, and if you wish to see him will forward him to you. How much is true and how much romance you can judge.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, *April* 30, 1864—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The rebel officer just arrested in Baltimore, who left Lee's army April 17, at Gordonsville, states that fifteen days' rations were issued that day to the men. The Third Corps (A. P. Hill) was then at Gordonsville; marched the same day to Liberty Mills. General Longstreet's corps marched through Charlottesville for Emersonville, from which turnpike runs to Warrenton Junction. Long-

street was between Emersonville and Warrenton Junction. He has two divisions of his own, commanded by McLaws and Jenkins. The last division is Hood's old command. Longstreet was re-enforced on the 15th and 16th instant by a division of Polk's corps (Mississippi); also a brigade from Pickett's division, the whole making 20,000 men. Has no cavalry, only infantry and artillery; of the latter has three battalions of five batteries, four guns each, short of horses; regiments of infantry full; plenty of ammunition; provisions scarce, but regularly supplied; forage scarce. The officer's account of Lee's plan is as follows: Lee's army is to be divided into three columns (A. P. Hill's, Ewell's, and Longstreet's). Longstreet takes the mountain road over Blue Ridge, via Sperryville, either to make a flank movement through the Shenandoah Valley or to re-enforce Lee, in case of necessity. A. P. Hill (50,000 strong, says this officer) is to try to force your right from Culpeper, and for that purpose will move by way of New Baltimore, and at Warrenton to make a junction with Ewell's corps, which is to be left behind to guard the Rapidan. As soon as Hill gains the rear of our army Ewell is to advance. Strength of Ewell's corps unknown, but it is in three divisions—Johnson, Rodes, and Early, major-generals. All rebel troops withdrawn from East Tennessee, except Breckinridge, who has 25,000 men. At last accounts Breckinridge was at Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, Va.; cavalry under John Morgan. Breckinridge is to force his way through Kanawha Valley and down into Ohio. If Lee gets into Pennsylvania Breckinridge is to join him, while Morgan destroys the railroad east and west. General Lee's general direction is to be westerly, toward Wheeling and Pittsburg. Breckinridge and Morgan expect to move down the Kanawha Valley and to cross the Ohio near Gallipolis. Richmond is left under charge of Beauregard. The rivers have torpedoes. The troops defending Richmond are Pickett's division (15,000 men); Maryland Line, detailed men from hospitals, conscripts, citizens, &c., under General Elzey; a cavalry brigade of four regiments; militia of Governor Smith's call (fifty and fifty-five years of age) for guard duty; foreign legion of forced aliens. Defenses of Richmond strengthened by additional works.

If the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad were cut at New River bridge, 10 miles below Dublin, the supplies of meat for Lee's army would be cut off.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
*April* 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
*Quartermaster-General:*

Lieutenant-General Grant wishes put afloat 1,000,000 of provision rations and 200,000 forage rations, ready to be sent in to the James, York, or Rappahannock Rivers.

H. W. HALLECK,
*Major-General and Chief of Staff.*

So much of this memorandum as referred to subsistence furnished to Commissary-General on same date.

ROBERT N. SCOTT,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *April* 30, 1864.

Captain FISHER,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

Drums beating on right in enemy's camp. Cars running since 3 a. m. Can see no change. Very smoky.

WIGGINS and FULLER.

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WARRENTON JUNCTION, VA., *April* 30, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

General Stevenson will be at Bealeton with the main body of his division by 9 o'clock. I will make such disposition by 10 or 11 o'clock as will enable you to move your force across the Rappahannock at once. Please meet General Stevenson at Bealeton, or send an aide there to give him a statement of your instructions for guarding the road. I expected to have met you yesterday at Rappahannock Station, but suppose you did not receive my telegram in season. Please turn over to General Stevenson the cavalry that is with you.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
*Major-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
*Commanding First Division.*

The major-general commanding desires to know when your command is relieved. As fast as they come up you can cross them to this side of the river, and let them camp there till they are all up.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
*April* 30, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Have no troops on the Culpeper side of the river. Am ready to leave at twenty minutes' notice. My orders were to assemble division at Rappahannock Station.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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CULPEPER, VA., *April* 30, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

The major-general commanding directs you to move across the river to-morrow and camp on this side, if it is not storming. I sent word to the engineer officer to have the pontoon bridge taken up and loaded on his wagons.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
*April* 30, 1864.

Captain FISHER,
*Chief Signal Officer:*

All quiet. No visible change in enemy's camps. The usual weekly relief of pickets took place this a. m. Reserve is near Gibson's house, opposite this point.

HOLLAND.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 30, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.35 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

The efficiency of part of the Second Corps is greatly impaired by the uncertainty attending the position of Brigadier-General Carr. General Carr now commands a division by virtue of the rank given him officially by the Department, but it is well understood that the Senate have refused to confirm him with the date of his appointment, and it is expected he will be junior to General Mott, now commanding a brigade in his division. This is producing disquiet and bad feeling, and I desire, if possible, to have the matter definitely settled one way or the other before the army moves. If you can do anything about it I should be obliged to you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HDQRS. NINTH ARMY CORPS,
*Warrenton Junction, Va., April* 30, 1864.

The troops of this command will be prepared at all times to march at short notice with three days' cooked rations in haversacks, three days' rations of hard bread, coffee, sugar, and salt in knapsacks, with three days' beef on the hoof, and in the wagons ten days' forage, ten days' hard bread, coffee, sugar, and salt, with one-fourth rations of soap and candles, and ten days' rations of meat, three days of them to be salt, the remaining seven on the hoof.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

LEWIS RICHMOND,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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BUNKER HILL, *April* 30, 1864—noon.
(Received 4.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

No news of special importance has been received since yesterday. There is no enemy of considerable force this side of Cedar Creek, and no information of a strong movement of the enemy down the valley. It is reported, but not fully reliable, that Lee's army had begun to move, with seven days' rations, yesterday, and that he has sent his baggage trains to Scottsville, due south of Charlottesville, on James River. I am waiting here for one part of my troops ordered forward

from Romney yesterday, and will then move to Winchester. Strong scouting parties have been sent out to-day. The reports of those sent out yesterday morning have not come in yet. Please send all dispatches to Martinsburg.

FRANZ SIGEL,
*Major-General.*

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HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, W. Va., April* 30, 1864.

Capt. H. S. TAFFT,
*Signal Corps, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations of this detachment during the month of April, 1864:

Until the 29th of the month headquarters of the detachment were at Cumberland, Md., at which point I had established a camp of instruction.

On the last day of March the detachment consisted of 4 officers and 45 enlisted men. During this month the following additions have been made to it, viz: April 5, 1 officer reported; 14th, 1 officer reported; 15th, 3 officers reported; 17th, 2 officers reported; 21st, 1 officer reported, and 25th, 1 officer reported; total 9. These officers were detailed as acting signal officers by special orders from department headquarters, in compliance with suggestions of a communication stating the necessity which existed for them, approved at office of the Chief Signal Officer, Washington, D. C.

On the 22d, Sergeant Knapp reported with 53 enlisted men from Camp of Instruction at Georgetown, D. C., and on the 26th an officer turned over to me a descriptive roll of 63 enlisted men, ordered from Department of the Susquehanna by special orders from Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, D. C. One of the names was added by mistake, making the correct number 62; total, 116. Four of these from Department of the Susquehanna are absent on furlough; the others have all reported.

Thus the aggregate force at this time is 13 officers and 161 enlisted men. The officers and men were drilled constantly, under direction of Lieut. M. C. F. Denicke, until the party was ordered into the field.

On the 25th, Lieutenant Denicke was injured by being thrown from a horse, so as to render him unable to go into the field for some time.

There has been great difficulty in obtaining horses, and when my requisitions as now approved are filled, which will be soon, there will be 98 of the men mounted; the others it will be impossible to mount for some time.

On the 29th, I received telegraphic orders from Major-General Sigel, who was at Martinsburg, W. Va., to report to him with my party at that place, sending the mounted men by Williamsport and Falling Waters pike and the dismounted party by rail. Accordingly I broke camp that day, and on the morning of the 30th started the marching party at daybreak, under command of Lieut. D. N. Jones, assisted by Lieutenants Fortney and Brault, all of them newly detailed officers, and brought the remainder of the party by railroad, reaching Martinsburg that afternoon. The marching party should reach Martinsburg on the 2d of May, and immediately upon their arrival I shall put them into the field, as well as possible, still continuing to drill both officers and men. All the stations hereto-

fore in operation were dispensed with, as no further necessity existed for them, and the whole party was collected at Martinsburg, W. Va.

It is very unfortunate that the party can have no more practice before going into the field, as the officers cannot work an important station, and cannot without considerable more practice work in the presence of the enemy, as they are not sufficiently conversant with the code to be intrusted with the ciphers. The general commanding understands this and appreciates the facts and will make all allowances, but I fear some opportunities of gaining credit to the corps by valuable service may be lost by the incompetence of the party at present to do the best duty. Lest it may appear like negligence on my part that the officers were so tardy in reporting, I would explain that it was difficult to find officers who were competent for the duty who could be spared from their regiments, there being very many companies with only one officer for duty, and much delay was occasioned by the remonstrances and interference of regimental commanders, who, disliking to lose good officers, retarded it as much as possible. No time was lost in the selection of and request for details of officers, but it is unfortunate that the details were not sooner made when asked for, and sooner complied with when made.

If we have no action for a few weeks the party will be in good order for it, and I hope the party will be able to render all the service required of it by the time it has duty to perform in the face of the enemy. The officers and men are all disposed to use their best efforts, and no labor will be spared to meet the utmost expectations of the commanding officer of the corps and the major-general commanding department.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANKLIN E. TOWN,
*Capt. and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of West Virginia.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
*Camp near Bunker Hill, April* 30, 1864.

Lieut. THOMAS H. WELLSTED,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My scout from above Winchester reports the enemy's pickets on lookout at Winchester. They also report a considerable force this side of Woodstock, with heavy artillery. This information has been received from reliable Union citizens. The scout thinks the artillery mentioned are field guns, and that the force does not exceed 1,500 or 2,000 men.

Respectfully submitted.

R. F. TAYLOR,
*Colonel, Commanding First Division.*

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CHARLESTON, *April* 30, 1864.

Major-General SIGEL:

Not having a sufficient infantry force to make two columns, I shall only make a demonstration toward Lewisburg, so as to keep the enemy from leaving there, while I will march with the main body from Fayetteville, on the bridge of New River. Gen-

eral Averell, with 2,000 mounted men, will go through Logan Court-House to the vicinity of Saltville, and if circumstances will not justify his attacking that place, to destroy the railroad from there toward the bridge, so as to prevent re-enforcements from Tennessee. Should I be successful in taking the bridge, I shall cross the river and move toward Lynchburg, destroying the road as far as I deem it prudent, then fall back on Lewisburg. The officer who commands on the Lewisburg line is instructed to watch the enemy's movements well, and if he retreats to advance, occupy Lewisburg, and collect the supplies of the country; on the contrary, if the enemy should advance on him for him to retreat, delaying the enemy all he can by contesting strong points, blockading the roads, &c. Could you send any scouts to me from where you are, and [inform me] what you are doing, it would benefit me much. I will endeavor to communicate with scouts across the country. May every success attend you.

GEORGE CROOK.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT, *April* 30, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of dispatch, No. 275, dated the 27th instant, received from Acting Rear-Admiral Lee, in reference to matters about Wilmington and the movements of the rebels in North Carolina.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy.*

[Inclosure.]

SERIES 2, No. 275. } FLAG-SHIP N. A. BLOCKADING SQUADRON,
*Hampton Roads, Va., April* 27, 1864.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
*Secretary of the Navy:*

SIR: Captain Sands, U. S. steamer Fort Jackson, reports, under date of 23d instant, that on the night of the 22d instant he sent the Niphon to reconnoiter in the vicinity of Myrtle Sound, and obtain information, if practicable, of the number and disposition of the enemy. A cutter and dingy were dispatched from the Niphon; the latter, in charge of Acting Ensign Borden, was carried across the beach and into the sound, while the cutter, in charge of Acting Ensign Semon, both officers attached to the Niphon, picketed the beach. Acting Ensign Borden crossed the sound without being discovered by the enemy's pickets, and, running up a small creek, landed about 10.15 p. m., conducted by J. H. Pucket, the refugee pilot, who guided the expedition which destroyed the State salt-works on the 21st instant. He proceeded to the house of a Lieut. E. H. Davis, of the Masonborough Home Guards, who was known to be favorable to our cause. He came off with the party after making arrangements to obtain information from his friends at frequent intervals.

The information obtained from him is substantially as follows: That the present force in Fort Fisher and the batteries adjacent

consists of about 1,000 men; the force in and around Wilmington about 2,000, General Beauregard and General Whiting commanding; in addition to which, some 300 conscripts, who had been employed at the salt-works, were sent there after these works were destroyed; that Wilmington could, in his opinion, be taken with little difficulty now, by landing troops at Masonborough and marching across; the distance is short, and the road good and undefended.

The batteries at Wilmington mount but about ten or fifteen guns, and they old-fashioned smooth-bores. He does not state their caliber. When the firing at the salt-works on the 21st was heard at Wilmington it was supposed there that an attack on that place was intended, and troops that had been dispatched to Swansborough and the sounds were recalled. The number of these is not stated, nor whether they are included in the estimate given of the troops at Wilmington and vicinity.

I have informed General Butler of this man's statement, and represented to him that the presence of a general so highly esteemed as Beauregard, the sending of troops from Wilmington to Swansborough, the recent attack on Plymouth, and the increase of rebel force in the eastern part of North Carolina seems to indicate the determination to push the campaign with vigor, possibly to attack both Beaufort and New Berne, and that, in view of these facts, an increase of military force at Morehead City and Fort Macon appears requisite. The garrison at the latter place is so weak that, at the commanding officer's request, Commodore Dove sent 60 sailors from the blockaders there in the harbor to assist in manning it. Immediately upon being informed of this by him, however, I directed him to return the men at once to their vessels, as the already small crews could not bear this diminution.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

S. P. LEE,
*Actg. Rear-Admiral, Comdg. N. A. Blockading Squadron.*

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FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 30, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following, from a letter of General Wessells, at Plymouth, on the 16th, is forwarded for your information:

Longstreet's army is in motion for Richmond. Pemberton and many officers passed up to Richmond last week, and talked freely of the opening campaign. It is Lee's intention to anticipate General Grant's combinations; take initiative.

B. F. BUTLER,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
*Camp Whitaker, April* 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: From various sources I get the following information, which is not much, but so far as it goes I think it can be relied on:

First. The enemy have undoubtedly a considerable force at White Oak Swamp, which is in supporting distance of the fords, extending from Forge Bridge to the railroad bridge. Refugees and negroes

estimate this central force at about 15,000 men, with some artillery. I have seen "passes" signed by three different colonels about the same date, dated at "Camp at White Oak Swamp, Va." Of course the number is exaggerated.

Second. The Fifty-third Virginia Infantry is near Bromley's, guarding a fishery, which is worked by detailed men from Richmond for the Government. I hear of no artillery there, but they have a cavalry picket pushed down to Barhamsville.

Third. The Fifty-seventh Virginia Infantry, with Holcombe's Legion (cavalry) and the Richmond battalion, is at the Bottom's Bridge, where they are repairing their earth-works, and have certainly nine, some positively assert twenty, pieces of artillery.

Fourth. There is some infantry at the railroad bridge, and a siege gun mounted on a platform car running on the railroad.

Fifth. There are various conflicting stories of several brigades being between Bottom's Bridge and Richmond, but they probably relate to the large camp at White Oak Swamp.

Sixth. A small party with surveyors' instruments was examining Forge Bridge four days since, which must have been with a view to constructing defensive works, since they could not wish to bridge the stream at a point which is nearly constantly fordable. Nothing of this indicate an offensive design in this direction. Still, as one day's march might bring all these troops to this point, it must be deemed threatened a little until relieved by movements elsewhere.

Although of no great importance, I communicate the above to you as all the positive information I have been able to collect.

Very respectfully,

I. J. WISTAR,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. U. S. FORCES, YORKTOWN AND GLOUCESTER POINT,
*May* 1, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding department.

I do not know where Bromley's is, but should think damage might [be] inflicted by destroying fisheries there.

WM. F. SMITH,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. U. S. TROOPS, YORKTOWN AND GLOUCESTER POINT,
*Yorktown, Va., April* 30, 1864.

General A. H. TERRY:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you cause one brigade to be ready to move at once, provided with two days' rations, to effect a landing at West Point, Va. They should carry such intrenching tools as may be necessary to construct rifle-pits if needed, and such other tools as will be wanted to rebuild the wharves there. Lumber sufficient to rebuild the wharves will be sent up soon. Captain Babcock, of the Navy, will send two gun-boats to convoy the fleet and cover the landing, and keep whatever gun-boats he can spare afterward to protect the flanks of the forces while in position. It is desired that the commanding officer of the brigade send out

scouting parties for the purpose of obtaining information of the movements of the enemy, which will be sent to these headquarters if important. Due notice will be sent you when the transports leave Fort Monroe, so that the brigade may be in readiness to go on board.

Should the transportation be sufficient, a battery without caissons will accompany the command.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. F. SMITH,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 30, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe:*

MAJOR: General Harland arrived here this morning from Little Washington, and the balance of the troops, guns, stores, &c., I expect before to-morrow night.

Capt. Melancton Smith, of the Navy, has arrived here, and at my suggestion he has directed Commander Renshaw to remain at Washington, to hold the place until he is assured that the enemy is coming with a large force to occupy it. He is also directed to give all the assistance in his power to the persons there who have been collecting naval stores, and to bring them all away.

The forces that were recently at Plymouth, and more recently near Washington, may have left for the purpose of going (via Greenville) either to Virginia or of coming to this place, with General Beauregard to command and with any force they can spare to attack us. I think we can hold out, and if we can divert such a force from Virginia at this time for the purpose, we will be, I conceive, aiding the general operations, and I hope they may come.

Steamers continue to arrive with commissary stores. Three have arrived to-day, and three more reported as to be here in the next twenty-four hours. I inclose a statement* made by a rebel prisoner and a refugee.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*New Berne, N. C., April* 30, 1864.

Col. J. M. MCCHESNEY,
*First N. C. (Union) Vols., Comdg. at Little Washington:*

COLONEL: General Harland has arrived here, and I learn from what he tells me that everything will be away from Washington before to-morrow. Capt. Melancton Smith, of the Navy, has arrived here and assumed command of the naval forces in all the sounds of North Carolina. He has ordered Captain Renshaw to remain at Washington until everything is gone, and then he is to hold the place, leaving only when he is sure that the place is to be occupied by the enemy.

* Not found.

I hope, colonel, that this may reach you while you are still in the place, and that when you do leave you will leave nothing of value for the enemy if they do come there. We still think that we may be attacked here. The force that was in front of you a day or two since can easily get here in three or four days; but as extensive movements are going on in Virginia, they may have all been called there; a day or two will tell. Captain Smith will ask Captain Renshaw to try to get the guns out of the island fort; even if they are not [of] much value, it would be better to bring them away. Captain Renshaw will al o be cautioned against firing into or burning the town. I sincerely hope that nothing of this sort will be done, as we may occupy it again very soon. You know our plans here, and I can only leave you to exercise your best judgment.

It is needless for me to say to you that if we have any warm work here I shall be most happy to have your assistance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE,
*Off Mouth of Neuse River, N. C., April* 30, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:*

SIR: The ram came out of Roanoke River yesterday p. m. The gun-boats fell back to Roanoke Island, where they still remain, so she is at large somewhere in the Albemarle Sound. I am trying to ascertain her whereabouts.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

D. W. WARDROP,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*April* 30, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Col. WILLIAM MCCANDLESS:

The following dispatch, just received from the War Department, is forwarded for publication to your command. Say to the men I expect every man will now return to duty and serve cheerfully till the time to be designated from the Department.

GEO. G. MEADE,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*April* 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
*Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

Your recommendation that the regiments of the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps be discharged from their respective dates of muster into the service of the State has been approved by the Secretary of War. A list showing the aforesaid dates of muster will be sent you by mail.

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*ITINERARY OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.**

CAVALRY CORPS.

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred T. A. Torbert.*

During the month the division was occupied in the vicinity of Culpeper Court-House, Va., engaged in picketing from Germanna Ford, on the Rapidan River, to the vicinity of Hazel River, Va.

*First Brigade, First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. George A. Custer.*

*April 1 to 17.*—Picketed the Rapidan from Raccoon Ford to Germanna Ford, when we were relieved from Third Division, Cavalry Corps, and assigned to the First Division, Cavalry Corps, when we picketed the railroad from Mitchell's Station to Sperryville pike, near Culpeper, Va.

*Second Brigade, First Division, commanded by Col. Thomas C. Devin, Sixth New York Cavalry.*

*April 1 to 22.*—Picketed from Bethlehem Church to Fox Mountain, 7 miles. Scouted to Castleton Mountain on the right, Sperryville on the front, and Hughes' River on the left.

*April 28.*—The brigade left camp at 5 a. m. on a reconnaissance; marched to Madison Court-House, driving off the rebel pickets; held the town for three hours, and returned to camp without loss.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry E. Davies, jr.*

The brigade was encamped in the vicinity of Warrenton, Va., up to the 21st of the month, when it moved camp to Three-Mile Station, near to Warrenton Junction, where it is engaged in picketing and scouting the surrounding country.

*April 29.*—Moved camp across the Rappahannock River to Paoli Mills, near to Brandy Station, where the brigade lies at present; nothing further of importance to record.

*Second Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. J. Irvin Gregg, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.*

SIXTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

In camp near Turkey Run, Va.; broke camp April 29, and marched by way of Kelly's Ford to Paoli Mills. During the month the regiment furnished two details of 100 men each for picket duty at Morrisville.

*April 26.*—Made scout to Warrenton; no casualties during the month; 1 man accidentally shot.

TENTH NEW YORK CAVALRY.

*April 1.*—Headquarters of the regiment near Warrenton, Va.

*April 10.*—Nine commissioned officers and 300 men sent on picket near Morrisville, where they remained during most of the month.

*As reported on returns of the commands indicated for April, 1864.

*April* 17.—One man (Henry Jerdon, Company D) killed and 3 badly wounded in a skirmish with guerrillas near Ellis' Ford.

*April* 21.—S. D. Lawrence, Company D, died of wounds received at Ellis' Ford on the 17th. The regiment has captured 8 prisoners during the month. Distance marched, 100 miles; health and condition of men good.

*April* 27.—The detachment returned from picket at Morrisville.

*April* 29.—Regiment broke camp near Warrenton Junction, and marched to near Brandy Station, and went into camp.

### FIRST MAINE CAVALRY.

*April* 1.—The regiment was in winter quarters near Turkey Run.

*April* 7.—A scouting party of 50 men proceeded to Auburn, and returned without meeting any of the enemy.

*April* 17.—The brigade was reviewed by the major-general commanding corps, and immediately after the regiment accompanied the brigade on a reconnaissance to Sulphur Springs, and one company crossed the river, proceeding dismounted to Jefferson, returning withouf encountering any of the enemy.

*April* 20.—The regiment was inspected by the corps inspector.

*April* 21.—Moved camp to near Turkey Station.

*April* 24.—A party of 150 men, commanded by Major Thaxter, went on a scout to Warrenton.

*April* 27.—One hundred and fifty men, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Boothby, went on a scout to Warrenton, capturing 1 prisoner.

*April* 29.—Moved to Paoli Mills.

### EIGHTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

*April* 1 *to* 6.—Regiment in camp near Warrenton, Va.

*April* 6.—A scouting party of 25 men, under Captain Alexander McCallum, went toward Auburn, scouting the country thoroughly, but found no trace of the enemy.

*April* 19.—Regiment reviewed by Major-General Sheridan, regiment then went on scout to Sulphur Springs; returned same day.

*April* 21.—Regiment broke up winter quarters and went into camp.

*April* 29.—Regiment broke camp near Turkey River, Va., and moved to Kelly's Ford; crossed and marched to Paoli Mills, and encamped there the 30th.

### FOURTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

Regiment changed camp from the old site of Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry to a position near Warrenton.

*April* 29.—The division moved at 9 a. m., the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry supporting the pickets upon their being relieved, and upon reaching the camp of the First Brigade were relieved from acting as rear guard, joining the main column at Germantown; crossed the Rappahannock at Kelly's Ford, and encamped at 9 p. m. at Paoli Mills.

### SECOND PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

*April* 21.—The regiment moved from camp, near Warrenton, to Turkey Run; distance 2 miles; remained here on picket duty until April 29, when it marched to Paoli Mills via Bealeton Station; distance about 20 miles.

THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

*April* 15.—Guerrillas made an attack upon the picket-post of this regiment on the Greenwich road; 1 man of the picket was killed. The guerrillas were driven off and followed as far as Buckland Mills; they made good their escape.

*Third Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. James H. Wilson.*

The division is doing picket duty from Germanna Ford to Morton's Ford, on the extreme left and front of the army, and across the Neck to Kemper's Dam, on the Rappahannock. A detachment of 200 men is stationed at Grove Church, patrolling toward Falmouth.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

*April* 1 *to* 30.—In camp at Cole's Hill, Culpeper County, Va.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

The corps has been engaged during this month in guarding the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and in picketing the fords of the Rappahannock from Norman's Ford to Freeman's Ford. Headquarters of the corps at Culpeper Court-House.

*First Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Charles Griffin.*

*April* 1 *to* 30.—The division remained in camp, near Rappahannock Station, Va., performing the usual camp and picket duties.

*First Brigade, Second Division, commanded by Col. Samuel H. Leonard, Thirteenth Massachusetts Infantry.*

The brigade remained encamped at Mitchell's Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, until April 26, when it changed camp to a point 1 mile to the north. The One hundred and seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers having re-enlisted, went on furlough on the 10th.

*Third Division, commanded by Col. William McCandless, Second Pennsylvania Reserves.*

*April* 18.—The Second Brigade Pennsylvania Reserves, consisting of the Seventh and Eighth Regiments Pennsylvania Reserves, joined the division.

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 107, from headquarters Fifth Army Corps, the brigade was temporarily dissolved. The Seventh Regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, and the Eighth Regiment to the Third Brigade.

*April* 29.—The division was relieved from duty on the railroad, by troops from Major-General Burnside's command, and marched to Licking Run, near Warrenton Junction, and bivouacked for the night.

*April* 30.—Marched to this point (near Culpeper, Va.).

*First Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Henry C. Bolinger, Seventh Pennsylvania Reserves.*

*April* 29.—Marched from Bristoe Station to Warrenton Junction, Va., and encamped for the night.

*April* 30.—Marched to near Culpeper Court-House.

*Third Brigade, Third Division, commanded by Col. Joseph W. Fisher, Fifth Pennsylvania Reserves.*

*April* 29.—Marched from Manassas Junction, Va., to Warrenton Junction.

*April* 30.—Marched from thence to near Culpeper Court-House.

The Eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserves temporarily assigned to Third Brigade, Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, Special Orders, No. 107, headquarters Fifth Army Corps, April 25, 1864, by order of Major-General Warren.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS.

In camp near Welford's Ford, Va., throughout the month.

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*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for April* 30, 1864.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| Commanding general and staff | 43 | .... | 43 | 46 | ..... |
| Provost guard (Patrick) | 69 | 1,057 | 1,513 | 2,264 | ..... |
| Engineer Brigade (Benham) | 45 | 1,917 | 2,413 | 2,557 | ..... |
| Engineer Battalion (Mendell) | 5 | 309 | 354 | 428 | ..... |
| Guards and orderlies (Ingalls) | 2 | 59 | 91 | 98 | ..... |
| Artillery (Hunt) | 141 | 4,446 | 5,722 | 6,475 | 92 |
| Signal corps (Fisher) | 14 | 207 | 233 | 296 | ..... |
| Second Army Corps (Hancock) | 1,345 | 27,330 | 35,474 | 46,584 | 54 |
| Fifth Army Corps (Warren) | 1,267 | 24,740 | 32,341 | 41,675 | 48 |
| Sixth Army Corps (Sedgwick) | 1,062 | 22,986 | 28,449 | 35,302 | 48 |
| Cavalry Corps (Sheridan) | 616 | 15,209 | 20,838 | 30,032 | 32 |
| Total | 4,609 | 98,260 | 127,471 | 165,757 | 274 |

| Command. | Present for duty equipped. | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Infantry. | | Cavalry. | | Artillery. | | Total. | |
| | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. |
| Commanding general and staff | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Provost guard (Patrick) | 52 | 737 | 18 | 311 | ..... | ..... | 70 | 1,048 |
| Engineer Brigade (Benham) | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Engineer Battalion (Mendell) | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Guards and orderlies (Ingalls) | ..... | ..... | 2 | 59 | ..... | ..... | 2 | 59 |
| Artillery (Hunt) | 59 | 2,391 | ..... | ..... | 64 | 2,052 | 123 | 4,443 |
| Signal corps (Fisher) | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Second Army Corps (Hancock) | 1,276 | 25,405 | ..... | ..... | 50 | 1,602 | 1,326 | 27,007 |
| Fifth Army Corps (Warren) | 1,227 | 22,898 | ..... | ..... | 45 | 1,525 | 1,272 | 24,423 |
| Sixth Army Corps (Sedgwick) | 1,003 | 21,581 | 2 | 48 | 43 | 1,536 | 1,048 | 23,165 |
| Cavalry Corps (Sheridan) | ..... | ..... | 585 | 11,839 | 24 | 839 | 609 | 12,678 |
| Total | 3,617 | 73,012 | 607 | 12,257 | 226 | 7,554 | 4,450 | 92,823 |

*Organization of the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, April 30, 1864.*

## GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

PROVOST GUARD.

Brig. Gen. MARSENA R. PATRICK.

80th New York (20th Militia), Col. Theodore B. Gates.
68th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Robert E. Winslow.
114th Pennsylvania, Col. Charles H. T. Collis.
1st Massachusetts Cavalry, Companies C and D, Capt. Charles F. Adams, jr.
3d Pennsylvania Cavalry, Maj. James W. Walsh.

GUARDS AND ORDERLIES.

Oneida (New York) Cavalry, Capt. Daniel P. Mann.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. BENJAMIN F. FISHER.

ORDNANCE DETACHMENT.

Lieut. MORRIS SCHAFF.

VOLUNTEER ENGINEER BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. BENHAM.

15th New York (five companies), Maj. William A. Ketchum.
50th New York,* Col. William H. Pettes.

U. S. ENGINEER BATTALION.

Capt. GEORGE H. MENDELL.

## SECOND ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WINFIELD S. HANCOCK.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. FRANCIS C. BARLOW.

*First Brigade.*

Col. NELSON A. MILES.

26th Michigan, Maj. Lemuel Saviers.
61st New York, Lieut. Col. K. Oscar Broady.
81st Pennsylvania, Col. H. Boyd McKeen.
140th Pennsylvania, Col. John Fraser.
183d Pennsylvania, Col. George P. McLean.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. THOMAS A. SMYTH.

28th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. George W. Cartwright.
63d New York, Maj. Thomas Touhy.
69th New York, Capt. Richard Moroney.
88th New York (detachment), Capt. Denis F. Burke.
116th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Richard C. Dale.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. PAUL FRANK.

39th New York, Col. Augustus Funk.
52d New York,† Maj. Henry M. Karples.
57th New York, Lieut. Col. Alford B. Chapman.
111th New York, Capt. Aaron P. Seeley.
125th New York, Lieut. Col. Aaron B. Myer.
126th New York, Capt. Morris Brown, jr.

*Fourth Brigade.*

Col. JOHN R. BROOKE.

2d Delaware, Col. William P. Baily.
64th New York, Maj. Leman W. Bradley.
66th New York, Lieut. Col. John S. Hammell.
53d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Richards McMichael.
145th Pennsylvania, Col. Hiram L. Brown.
148th Pennsylvania, Col. James A. Beaver.

* Three companies serving with Sixth Army Corps.
† Detachment of Seventh New York attached.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN GIBBON.

*Provost Guard.*

2d Company Minnesota Sharpshooters, Capt. Mahlon Black.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER S. WEBB.

19th Maine, Col. Selden Connor.
15th Massachusetts, Maj. I. Harris Hooper.
19th Massachusetts, Maj. Edmund Rice.
20th Massachusetts, Maj. Henry L. Abbott.
7th Michigan, Maj. Sylvanus W. Curtis.
42d New York, Maj. Patrick J. Downing.
59th New York (four companies), Capt. William McFadden.
82d New York (2d Militia), Col. Henry W. Hudson.
1st Company Massachusetts Sharpshooters, Lieut. Samuel G. Gilbreth.

*Second Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JOSHUA T. OWEN.

152d New York, Lieut. Col. George W. Thompson.
69th Pennsylvania, Maj. William Davis.
71st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Charles Kochersperger.
72d Pennsylvania, Capt. John Lockhart.
106th Pennsylvania, Capt. Robert H. Ford.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL S. CARROLL.

14th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Samuel A. Moore.
1st Delaware, Lieut. Col. Daniel Woodall.
14th Indiana, Col. John Coons.
12th New Jersey, Capt. Henry F. Chew.
10th New York Battalion, Capt. George M. Dewey.
108th New York, Capt. Joseph Deverell.
4th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Leonard W. Carpenter.
8th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Franklin Sawyer.
7th West Virginia, Lieut. Col. Jonathan H. Lockwood.

THIRD DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. DAVID B. BIRNEY.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. J. H. HOBART WARD.

20th Indiana, Col. William C. L. Taylor.
3d Maine, Col. Moses B. Lakeman.
40th New York, Col. Thomas W. Egan.
86th New York, Lieut. Col. Jocob H. Lansing.
124th New York, Col. Francis M. Cummins.
99th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edwin R. Biles.
110th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Jacob W. Greenawalt.
141st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Guy H. Watkins.
2d U. S. Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. Homer R. Stoughton.

*Second Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER HAYS.

4th Maine, Col. Elijah Walker.
17th Maine, Col. George W. West.
3d Michigan, Col. Byron R. Pierce.
5th Michigan, Lieut. Col. John Pulford.
93d New York, Col. John S. Crocker.
57th Pennsylvania, Col. Peter Sides.
63d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John A. Danks.
105th Pennsylvania, Col. Calvin A. Craig.
1st U. S. Sharpshooters, Maj. Charles P. Mattocks.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH B. CARR.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. GERSHOM MOTT.

1st Massachusetts, Col. Napoleon B. McLaughlen.
16th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Waldo Merriam.
5th New Jersey, Col. William J. Sewell.
6th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Stephen R. Gilkyson.
7th New Jersey, Maj. Frederick Cooper.
8th New Jersey, Col. John Ramsey.
11th New Jersey, Col. Robert McAllister.
26th Pennsylvania, Maj. Samuel G. Moffett.
115th Pennsylvania, Maj. William A. Reilly.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM R. BREWSTER.

11th Massachusetts, Col. William Blaisdell.
70th New York, Capt. William H. Hugo.
71st New York, Lieut. Col. Thomas Rafferty.
72d New York, Lieut. Col. John Leonard.
73d New York, Lieut. Col. Michael W. Burns.
74th New York, Col. Thomas Holt.
120th New York, Capt. Abram L. Lockwood.
84th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Milton Opp.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. JOHN C. TIDBALL.

Maine Light, 6th Battery (F), Capt. Edwin B. Dow.
Massachusetts Light, 10th Battery, Capt. J. Henry Sleeper.
New Hampshire Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Frederick M. Edgell.
1st New York Light, Battery G, Capt. Nelson Ames.
4th New York Heavy, 3d Battalion, Lieut. Col. Thomas Allcock.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery F, Capt. R. Bruce Ricketts.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery A, Capt. William A. Arnold.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery B, Capt. T. Fred. Brown.
4th United States, Battery K, Lieut. John W. Roder.
5th United States, Batteries C and I, Lieut. James Gilliss.

## FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. GOUVERNEUR K. WARREN.

PROVOST GUARD.

12th New York Battalion, Capt. Henry W. Rider.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ROMEYN B. AYRES.

140th New York, Col. George Ryan.
146th New York, Col. David T. Jenkins.
91st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Sinex.
155th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Alfred L. Pearson.
2d United States (six companies), Capt. James W. Long.
11th United States (six companies), Capt. Francis M. Cooley.
12th United States, Maj. Luther B. Bruen.
14th United States (eight companies), Capt. Edward McK. Hudson.
17th United States (eight companies), Capt. James F. Grimes.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. JACOB B. SWEITZER.

9th Massachusetts, Col. Patrick R. Guiney.
22d Massachusetts,* Col. William S. Tilton.
32d Massachusetts, Col. George L. Prescott.
4th Michigan, Lieut. Col. George W. Lumbard.
62d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. James C. Hull.

*Second Company Massachusetts Sharpshooters attached.

*Third Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH J. BARTLETT.

20th Maine, Maj. Ellis Spear.
18th Massachusetts, Col. Joseph Hayes.
1st Michigan, Lieut. Col. William A. Throop.
16th Michigan, Maj. Robert T. Elliott.
44th New York, Lieut. Col. Freeman Conner.
83d Pennsylvania, Col. Orpheus S. Woodward.
118th Pennsylvania, Col. James Gwyn.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN C. ROBINSON.

*First Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL H. LEONARD.

16th Maine, Col. Charles W. Tilden.
13th Massachusetts, Capt. Charles H. Hovey.
39th Massachusetts, Col. Phineas S. Davis.
104th New York, Col. Gilbert G. Prey.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. RICHARD COULTER.

12th Massachusetts, Col. James L. Bates.
83d New York (9th Militia), Col. Joseph A. Moesch.
97th New York, Col. Charles Wheelock.
11th Pennsylvania, Maj. John B. Keenan.
88th Pennsylvania, Capt. George B. Rhoads.
90th Pennsylvania, Col. Peter Lyle.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. ANDREW W. DENISON.

1st Maryland, Maj. Benjamin H. Schley.
4th Maryland, Col. Richard N. Bowerman.
7th Maryland, Col. Charles E. Phelps.
8th Maryland, Lieut. Col. John G. Johannes.

THIRD DIVISION.*

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL W. CRAWFORD.

*First Brigade.*

Col. HENRY C. BOLINGER.

1st Pennsylvania Reserves, Col. William C. Talley.
2d Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. Patrick McDonough.
6th Pennsylvania Reserves, Col. Wellington H. Ent.
7th Pennsylvania Reserves, Maj. Le Grand B. Speece.
11th Pennsylvania Reserves, Col. Samuel M. Jackson.
13th Pennsylvania Reserves (1st Rifles), Maj. William R. Hartshorne.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JOSEPH W. FISHER.

5th Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. George Dare.
8th Pennsylvania Reserves, Col. Silas M. Baily.
9th Pennsylvania Reserves, Maj. Charles Barnes.
10th Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. Ira Ayer, jr.
12th Pennsylvania Reserves, Lieut. Col. Richard Gustin.

*Second Brigade discontinued.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JAMES S. WADSWORTH.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. LYSANDER CUTLER.

7th Indiana, Col. Ira G. Grover.
19th Indiana, Col. Samuel J. Williams.
24th Michigan, Lieut. Col. William W. Wight.
1st New York Battalion Sharpshooters, Capt. Volney J. Shipman.
2d Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. John Mansfield.
6th Wisconsin, Col. Edward S. Bragg.
7th Wisconsin, Col. William W. Robinson.

*Second Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JAMES C. RICE.

76th New York, Lieut. Col. John E. Cook.
84th New York (14th Militia), Lieut. Col. Robert B. Jordan.
95th New York, Col. Edward Pye.
147th New York, Col. Francis C. Miller.
56th Pennsylvania, Col. J. William Hofmann.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. ROY STONE.

121st Pennsylvania, Capt. Samuel T. Lloyd.
142d Pennsylvania, Maj. Horatio N. Warren.
143d Pennsylvania, Capt. M. Lewis Blair.
149th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John Irvin.
150th Pennsylvania, Capt. George W. Jones.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES S. WAINWRIGHT.

Massachusetts Light, 3d Battery (C), Lieut. Aaron F. Walcott.
Massachusetts Light, 5th Battery (E), Capt. Charles A. Phillips.
1st New York Light, Battery D, Capt. George B. Winslow.
1st New York Light, Batteries E and L, Capt. Gilbert H. Reynolds.
1st New York Light, Battery H, Capt. Charles E. Mink.
4th New York Heavy, 2d Battalion, Maj. William Arthur.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery B, Capt. James H. Cooper.
4th United States, Battery B, Lieut. James Stewart.
5th United States, Battery D, Lieut. Benjamin F. Rittenhouse.

## SIXTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN SEDGWICK.

ESCORT.

8th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Charles E. Fellows.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. HORATIO G. WRIGHT.

*First Brigade.*

Col. HENRY W. BROWN.

1st New Jersey, Lieut. Col. William Henry, jr.
2d New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Charles Wiebecke.
3d New Jersey, Capt. Samuel T. Du Bois.
4th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Charles Ewing.
10th New Jersey, Col. Henry O. Ryerson.
15th New Jersey, Col. William H. Penrose.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. EMORY UPTON.

5th Maine, Col. Clark S. Edwards.
121st New York, Lieut. Col. Egbert Olcott.
95th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward Carroll.
96th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William H. Lessig.

*Third Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. DAVID A. RUSSELL.

6th Maine, Maj. George Fuller.
49th Pennsylvania, Col. Thomas M. Hulings.
119th Pennsylvania, Maj. Henry P. Truefitt, jr.
5th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Theodore B. Catlin.

*Fourth Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER SHALER.

65th New York, Col. Joseph E. Hamblin.
67th New York, Col. Nelson Cross.
122d New York, Lieut. Col. Augustus W. Dwight.
23d Pennsylvania,* Col. John F. Glenn.
82d Pennsylvania,* Col. Isaac C. Bassett.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE W. GETTY.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. FRANK WHEATON.

62d New York, Lieut. William Moore.
93d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John S. Long.
98th Pennsylvania, Col. John F. Ballier.
102d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Samuel Forrester.
139th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William H. Moody.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. LEWIS A. GRANT.

2d Vermont, Col. Newton Stone.
3d Vermont, Col. Thomas O. Seaver.
4th Vermont, Col. George P. Foster.
5th Vermont, Lieut. Col. John R. Lewis.
6th Vermont, Col. Elisha L. Barney.

*Third Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS H. NEILL.

7th Maine, Col. Edwin C. Mason.
43d New York, Lieut. Col. John Wilson.
49th New York, Col. Daniel D. Bidwell.
77th New York, Maj. Nathan S. Babcock.
61st Pennsylvania, Col. George F. Smith.

*Fourth Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY L. EUSTIS.

7th Massachusetts, Col. Thomas D. Johns.
10th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Parsons.
37th Massachusetts, Col. Oliver Edwards.
2d Rhode Island, Lieut. Col. Samuel B. M. Read.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JAMES B. RICKETTS.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. MORRIS.

14th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Caldwell K. Hall.
106th New York, Lieut. Col. Charles Townsend.
151st New York, Lieut. Col. Thomas M. Fay.
87th Pennsylvania, Col. John W. Schall.
10th Vermont, Lieut. Col. William W. Henry.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. BENJAMIN F. SMITH.

6th Maryland, Col. John W. Horn.
110th Ohio, Col. J. Warren Keifer.
122d Ohio, Col. William H. Ball.
126th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Aaron W. Ebright.
67th Pennsylvania, Col. John F. Staunton.
138th Pennsylvania, Col. Matthew R. McClennan.

* At Johnson's Island, Ohio.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES H. TOMPKINS.

Maine Light, 4th Battery (D), Lieut. Melville C. Kimball.
Massachusetts Light, 1st Battery (A), Capt. William H. McCartney.
New York Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Andrew Cowan.
New York Light, 3d Battery, Capt. William A. Harn.
4th New York Heavy, 1st Battalion, Maj. Thomas D. Sears.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery C, Capt. Richard Waterman.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery E, Capt. William B. Rhodes.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery G, Capt. George W. Adams.
5th United States, Battery M, Capt. James McKnight.

## CAVALRY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. PHILIP H. SHERIDAN.

ESCORT.

6th United States, Capt. Ira W. Claflin.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED T. A. TORBERT.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. GEORGE A. CUSTER.

1st Michigan, Lieut. Col. Peter Stagg.
5th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Ebenezer Gould.
6th Michigan, Maj. James H. Kidd.
7th Michigan, Maj. Henry W. Granger.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. THOMAS C. DEVIN.

4th New York, Lieut. Col. William R. Parnell.
6th New York, Lieut. Col. William H. Crocker.
9th New York, Col. William Sackett.
17th Pennsylvania, Col. Josiah H. Kellogg.

*Reserve Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. WESLEY MERRITT.

19th New York (1st Dragoons), Col. Alfred Gibbs.
6th Pennsylvania, Maj. William P. C. Treichel.
1st United States, Capt. Nelson B. Sweitzer.
2d United States, Maj. George A. Gordon.
5th United States,* Capt. Abraham K. Arnold.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. DAVID MCM. GREGG.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY E. DAVIES, Jr.

1st Massachusetts, Col. Horace B. Sargent.
1st New Jersey, Col. Percy Wyndham.
6th Ohio, Col. William Stedman.
1st Pennsylvania, Col. John P. Taylor.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG.

1st Maine, Col. Charles H. Smith.
10th New York, Maj. M. Henry Avery.
2d Pennsylvania, Maj. P. Benner Wilson.
4th Pennsylvania, Maj. William M. Biddle.
8th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Samuel Wilson.
16th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John K. Robison.

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*Companies B, F, and K, under Capt. Julius W. Mason, detached as escort to Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. WILSON.

ESCORT.

1st Ohio Cavalry, Companies A and C, Capt. Noah Jones.

*First Brigade.*

Col. TIMOTHY M. BRYAN, Jr.

1st Connecticut, Maj. Erastus Blakeslee.
2d New York, Col. Otto Harhaus.
5th New York, Lieut. Col. John Hammond.
18th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William P. Brinton.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. GEORGE H. CHAPMAN.

8th Illinois (detachment), Lieut. William W. Long.
3d Indiana, Maj. William Patton.
8th New York, Lieut. Col. William H. Benjamin.
1st Vermont, Lieut. Col. Addison W. Preston.

ARTILLERY.

Brig. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT.

ARTILLERY RESERVE.

Col. HENRY S. BURTON.

*First Brigade.*

Col. J. HOWARD KITCHING.

6th New York Heavy, Lieut. Col. Edmund R. Travis.
15th New York Heavy, Col. Louis Schirmer.

*Second Brigade.*

Maj. JOHN A. TOMPKINS.

Maine Light, 5th Battery (E), Capt. Greenleaf T. Stevens.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery A, Capt. William Hexamer.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery B, Capt. A. Judson Clark.
New York Light, 5th Battery, Capt. Elijah D. Taft.
New York Light, 12th Battery, Capt. George F. McKnight.
New York Light, 15th Battery, Capt. Patrick Hart.

*Third Brigade.*

Maj. ROBERT H. FITZHUGH.

Massachusetts Light, 9th Battery, Capt. John Bigelow.
1st New York Light, Battery B, Capt. Albert S. Sheldon.
1st New York Light, Battery C, Lieut. William H. Phillips.
New York Light, 11th Battery, Capt. John E. Burton.
1st Ohio Light, Battery H, Lieut. William A. Ewing.
5th United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Brinckle.

HORSE ARTILLERY.

*First Brigade.**

Capt. JAMES M. ROBERTSON.

New York Light, 6th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. Martin.
2d United States, Batteries B and L, Lieut. Edward Heaton.
2d United States, Battery D, Lieut. Edward B. Williston.
2d United States, Battery M, Lieut. A. C. M. Pennington, jr.
4th United States, Battery A, Lieut. Frederick Fuger.
4th United States, Batteries C and E, Lieut. Charles L. Fitzhugh.

*Second Brigade.*

Capt. DUNBAR R. RANSOM.

1st United States, Batteries E and G, Lieut. Frank S. French.
1st United States, Batteries H and I, Capt. Alanson M. Randol.
1st United States, Battery K, Lieut. John Egan.
2d United States, Battery A, Lieut. Robert Clarke.
2d United States, Battery G, Lieut. William N. Dennison.
3d United States, Batteries C, F, and K, Lieut. James R. Kelly.

*Serving with the cavalry.

*Abstract from return of the Ninth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of April, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Staff and infantry | 742 | 16,266 | 18,916 | 24,187 |
| Cavalry | 69 | 1,199 | 1,422 | 2,169 |
| Artillery | 31 | 943 | 1,019 | 1,131 |
| Total | 842 | 18,408 | 21,357 | 27,487 |

## *Troops in the Ninth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside, U. S. Army, commanding, April 30, 1864.*

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS G. STEVENSON.

*First Brigade.*

Col. SUMNER CARRUTH.

35th Massachusetts, Maj. Nathaniel Wales.
56th Massachusetts, Col. Charles E. Griswold.
57th Massachusetts, Col. William F. Bartlett.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. DANIEL LEASURE.

21st Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. George P. Hawkes.
100th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Matthew M. Dawson.

*Artillery.*

Maine Light, 2d Battery (B), Capt. Albert F. Thomas.
Massachusetts Light, 14th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. B. Wright.

SECOND DIVISION.

Col. SIMON G. GRIFFIN.

*First Brigade.*

Col. JOSHUA K. SIGFRIED.

36th Massachusetts, Maj. William F. Draper.
51st New York, Col. Charles W. Le Gendre.
45th Pennsylvania, Col. John I. Curtin.
48th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Henry Pleasants.
7th Rhode Island, Capt. Theodore Winn.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. HERBERT B. TITUS.

31st Maine, Lieut. Col. Thomas Hight.
32d Maine (six companies), Maj. Arthur Deering.
6th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Henry H. Pearson.
9th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. John W. Babbitt.
11th New Hampshire, Col. Walter Harriman.
17th Vermont, Lieut. Col. Charles Cummings.

*Artillery.*

Massachusetts Light, 11th Battery, Capt. Edward J. Jones.
New York Light, 19th Battery, Capt. Edward W. Rogers.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig.-Gen. ORLANDO B. WILLCOX.

*First Brigade.*

Col. JOHN F. HARTRANFT.

2d Michigan, Col. William Humphrey.
8th Michigan, Col. Frank Graves.
17th Michigan, Col. Constant Luce.
27th Michigan,* Lieut. Col. William B. Wright.
109th New York, Col. Benjamin F. Tracy.
51st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edwin Schall.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. BENJAMIN C. CHRIST.

1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Col. Charles V. De Land.
20th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Byron M. Cutcheon.
79th New York, Col. David Morrison.
60th Ohio, Lieut. Col. James N. McElroy.
50th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward Overton, jr.

*Artillery.*

Maine Light, 7th Battery (G), Capt. Adelbert B. Twitchell.
New York Light, 34th Battery, Capt. Jacob Roemer.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD FERRERO.

30th Connecticut (colored), detachment, Capt. Charles Robinson.
19th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Henry G. Thomas.
27th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. John Cartwright.
30th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Delevan Bates.
39th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Charles J. Wright.
43d U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. H. Seymour Hall.

*Artillery.*

Vermont Light, 3d Battery, Capt. Romeo H. Start.

CAVALRY.

3d New Jersey, Col. Andrew J. Morrison.
13th Pennsylvania, Maj. Michael Kerwin.

RESERVE ARTILLERY.

Capt. JOHN EDWARDS, Jr.

New York Light, 27th Battery, Capt. John B. Eaton.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery H, Capt. Crawford Allen, jr.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery D, Capt. George W. Durell.
2d United States, Battery E, Lieut. James S. Dudley.
3d United States, Battery G, Lieut. Herbert F. Guthrie.
3d United States, Batteries L and M, Capt. John Edwards, jr.

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*First and Second Companies Michigan Sharpshooters attached.

*Abstract from return of the Department of Washington, Maj. Gen. Christopher C. Augur, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of April, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters[a] | 21 | ..... | 21 | 23 | ..... | ..... |
| Artillery camp of instruction | 56 | 1,815 | 2,079 | 2,298 | ..... | 57 |
| District of Washington | 181 | 5,918 | 8,093 | 10,327 | ..... | ..... |
| Defenses north of the Potomac | 231 | 6,065 | 7,373 | 8,273 | 300 | 109 |
| Provisional brigades | 54 | 829 | 986 | 1,202 | ..... | ..... |
| Defenses south of the Potomac | 297 | 8,173 | 10,341 | 11,086 | 338 | 127 |
| Tyler's division | 193 | 3,747 | 5,227 | 6,916 | ..... | 6 |
| District of Alexandria | 69 | 2,597 | 3,950 | 4,548 | ..... | 6 |
| Camp Stoneman, D. C. | 144 | 4,798 | 6,101 | 6,626 | ..... | ..... |
| Fort Washington, Md. | 6 | 131 | 201 | 236 | 70 | 3 |
| Glymont Landing, Md. | 5 | 120 | 157 | 167 | ..... | ..... |
| Government Farms, Va | 2 | 153 | 174 | 182 | ..... | ..... |
| Total | 1,259 | 34,346 | 44,703 | 51,874 | 708 | 308 |

[a] Includes Brigadier-General Abercrombie and staff.

*Troops in the Department of Washington (Twenty-second Army Corps), Maj. Gen. Christopher C. Augur, U. S. Army, commanding, April 30, 1864.*

LIGHT ARTILLERY CAMP OF INSTRUCTION.*

Brig. Gen. ALBION P. HOWE.

Maine Light, 1st Battery (A), Capt. Albert W. Bradbury.
Maine Light, 3d Battery (C), Capt. Ezekiel R. Mayo.
Maryland Light, Battery A, Capt. James H. Rigby.
Massachusetts Light, 16th Battery, Capt. Henry D. Scott.
Michigan Light, 13th Battery, Capt. Callaghan H. O'Riordon.
Michigan Light, 14th Battery, Capt. Charles Heine.
New Jersey Light, 3d Battery, Capt. Christian Woerner.
1st New York Light, Battery F, Capt. William R. Wilson.
1st New York Light, Battery K, Capt. Solon W. Stocking.
1st Ohio Light, Battery L, Capt. Frank C. Gibbs.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery G, Capt. Beldin Spence.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery H, Capt. Andrew Fagan.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery C, Capt. James Thompson.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery F, Capt. Nathaniel Irish.
5th United States, Battery F, Lieut. Leonard Martin.
5th United States, Battery L, Lieut. Gulian V. Weir.

DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON.

Brig. Gen. JOHN H. MARTINDALE, Military Governor.

*First Brigade, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps.*

Col. RICHARD H. RUSH.

1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Col. Frederick E. Trotter.
6th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Col. Frederic S. Palmer.
9th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Col. George W. Gile.
19th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Col. Oscar V. Dayton.
22d U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Col. Allan Rutherford.
24th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Col. John F. Marsh.

*Not brigaded.*

8th Illinois Cavalry (six companies), Maj. John M. Waite.
U. S. Ordnance Detachment, Maj. James G. Benton.
27th Pennsylvania, Company F, Capt. John M. Carson.
150th Pennsylvania, Company K, Capt. Thomas Getchell.
24th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (one company), Capt. Emil Sturmfels.
Union Light Guard, Ohio Cavalry, Capt. George A. Bennett.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (detachments), Surg. Robert O. Abbott.

* Camps Barry and Marshall.

DEFENSES NORTH OF THE POTOMAC.*

Lieut. Col. JOSEPH A. HASKIN.

*First Brigade.*

Col. JAMES M. WARNER.

1st Vermont Heavy Artillery, Col. James M. Warner.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. LEWIS O. MORRIS.

1st Maine Heavy Artillery, Col. Daniel Chaplin.
7th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Lewis O. Morris.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JOSEPH WELLING.

9th New York Heavy Artillery,† Col. Joseph Welling.
9th New York Battery, Capt. Emil Schubert.

PROVISIONAL BRIGADES.‡

Maj. Gen. SILAS CASEY.

75th New York, Col. Robert B. Merritt.
23d U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Cleaveland J. Campbell.

DEFENSES SOUTH OF THE POTOMAC.§

Brig. Gen. GUSTAVUS A. DE RUSSY.

*First Brigade.*

Col. AUGUSTUS A. GIBSON.

2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Col. Augustus A. Gibson.
13th New York Cavalry, Company E, Capt. Francis C. Brown.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. THOMAS R. TANNATT.

1st Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Col. Thomas R. Tannatt.
2d New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph N. G. Whistler.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. ALEXANDER PIPER.

10th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Alexander Piper.
1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery (1st Battalion), Maj. Charles C. Meservey.

*Fourth Brigade.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT.

1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Col. Henry L. Abbot.
2d Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Col. Elisha S. Kellogg.

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* Troops at Forts Baker, Foote, Reno, and Slocum.

† Second Battalion at Fort Foote, under command of Lieut. Col. William H. Seward, jr.

‡ At Camps Casey and Grant.

§ Headquarters at Arlington; troops at Batteries Garesché and Rodgers, and at Forts Albany, Barnard, Bennett, Berry, Cass, Corcoran, Craig, Ellsworth, Ethan Allen, Farnsworth, Haggerty, Lyon, Marcy, O'Rorke, Reynolds, Richardson, Runyon, C. F. Smith, Strong, Tillinghast, Ward, Weed, Whipple, Willard, Williams, Woodbury, and Worth.

TYLER'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT O. TYLER.

*First Brigade.*

Col. ARTHUR H. GRIMSHAW.

4th Delaware, Lieut. Col. Charles E. La Motte.
2d District of Columbia, Col. Charles M. Alexander.
157th Pennsylvania (four companies), Maj. Thomas H. Addicks.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. MATHEW MURPHY.

155th New York, Lieut. Col. Hugh C. Flood.
164th New York, Lieut. Col, James P. McMahon.
170th New York, Col. James P. McIvor.
182d New York (69th New York National Guard Artillery), Lieut. Col. Thomas M. Reid.

*Cavalry Brigade.*

Col. CHARLES R. LOWELL, Jr.

2d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Casper Crowninshield.
13th New York, Col. Henry S. Gansevoort.
16th New York, Col. Henry M. Lazelle.

*Artillery.*

17th New York Battery, Capt. George T. Anthony.

DISTRICT OF ALEXANDRIA.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. SLOUGH, Military Governor.

1st District of Columbia (four companies), Capt. Marvin P. Fisher.
5th New York (veteran), Lieut. Col. Cleveland Winslow.
Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery H, Capt. William Borrowe.
9th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (detachment),* Capt. Isaac J. Neall.
11th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (detachment),* Maj. Alanson E. Niles.
19th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Company B,* Capt. Albert W. Hayes.
19th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Company G,* Capt. Morris H. Church.
20th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Company E,* Capt. Michael Eagan.

*U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps.*

Col. FREDERICK D. SEWALL.

3d U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (battalion), Lieut. Col. John Speidel.
12th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (battalion), Col. Addison Farnsworth.
20th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (battalion), Maj. Allen G. Brady.
14th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (six companies).† } Capt. Granville Fernald.
14th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (two companies).† }
21st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (two companies).† }
1st Michigan Cavalry, Company D, ‡ Capt. Thurlow W. Lusk.

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*On duty under Brig. Gen. Henry S. Briggs, camp for drafted men.
† On duty under Col. Samuel McKelvy, rendezvous for distribution.
‡ On duty under Lieut. Col. Henry H. Wells, provost-marshal.

RENDEZVOUS FOR DISTRIBUTION.

Lieut. Col. SAMUEL MCKELVY.

CAMP STONEMAN, D. C.

Col. JOHN B. MCINTOSH.

1st Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac (detachment), Capt. John S. Struthers.
Reserve Brigade, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac (detachment), Lieut. David Perry.
2d Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac (detachment), Maj. William H. Fry.
3d Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac (detachment), Capt. Bradley M. Thompson.

*Not brigaded.*

1st New Hampshire Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Benjamin T. Hutchins.
2d New York Mounted Rifles, Col. John Fisk.
24th New York Cavalry, Col. William C. Raulston.
25th New York Cavalry, Capt. Samuel W. McPherson.
2d Ohio Cavalry, Lieut. Col. George A. Purington.
1st Rhode Island Cavalry, Maj. Preston M. Farrington.

FORT WASHINGTON, MD.

Col. HORACE BROOKS.

16th Indiana Battery, Capt. Charles R. Deming.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (one company), Lieut. Francis W. Seeley.

DETACHMENTS.

*Glymont Landing, Md.*

1st Indiana Cavalry, Companies I and K, Capt. Theodore Majtheny.

*Government Farms, Va.*

111th New York, Companies B and C, Capt. Robert C. Perry.

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*Abstract from return of the Middle Department (Eighth Army Corps), Maj. Gen. Lewis Wallace, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of April,* 1864.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters | 14 | ..... | 14 | 14 | ..... | ..... |
| First Separate Brigade (Tyler) | 87 | 1,311 | 1,594 | 2,298 | ..... | ..... |
| Second Separate Brigade (Porter) | 30 | 842 | 1,182 | 2,079 | 155 | 10 |
| Third Separate Brigade (Lockwood) | 68 | 2,038 | 2,331 | 2,827 | ..... | 12 |
| District of Delaware (Kenly) | 13 | 225 | 263 | 303 | ..... | ..... |
| Annapolis, Md. (Root) | 21 | 458 | 560 | 772 | ..... | ..... |
| Total | 233 | 4,874 | 5,944 | 8,293 | 155 | 22 |

*Troops in the Middle Department (Eighth Army Corps), Maj. Gen. Lewis Wallace, U. S. Army, commanding, April 30, 1864.*

FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE.*

Brig. Gen. ERASTUS B. TYLER.

3d Delaware, Col. William B. Dorrell.
3d Maryland, Potomac Home Brigade, Col. Charles Gilpin.
Purnell (Maryland) Legion, Col. Samuel A. Graham.
1st Battalion Delaware Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Napoleon B. Knight.
Purnell (Maryland) Cavalry, Company B, Capt. Thomas H. Watkins.
8th New York Heavy Artillery, Company F, Capt. William J. Hawkins.

SECOND SEPARATE BRIGADE.

Col. PETER A. PORTER.

8th New York Heavy Artillery (four companies), Lieut. Col. Willard W. Bates.
2d U. S. Artillery, headquarters and Battery I.

THIRD SEPARATE BRIGADE.†

Brig. Gen. HENRY H. LOCKWOOD.

1st Maryland (Eastern Shore),‡ Col. John R. Keene.
1st Delaware Cavalry, Company E,§ Capt. John B. W. Aydelotte.
1st Maryland Cavalry, Col. Andrew W. Evans.
Smith's Independent Company Maryland Cavalry,‖ Lieut. Joseph T. Fearing.
Baltimore (Maryland) Battery, Capt. Frederic W. Alexander.
1st Maryland Light Artillery, Battery D, Lieut. Richard M. Ray.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Battery H, Capt. William D. Rank.
71st Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Robert J. Sutherland.
72d Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Frank P. Gross.
89th Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Nelson Bronson.
95th Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Vivian K. Spear.
96th Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Capt. Horace F. Crossman.
143d Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Horatio Roberts.

DISTRICT OF DELAWARE.

Brig. Gen. JOHN R. KENLY.

1st Maryland (Eastern Shore), Company H, Capt. Argalus G. Hennisee.
Purnell (Maryland) Cavalry, Company C, Lieut. Washington I. Purnell.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (detachment), Lieut. James Lewis.

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* At Relay House, Fort Dix, and Monrovia, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Chapel Point, and Monocacy Junction, Md.

† Attached: Fifth Maryland, Company B, Lieut. Samuel S. Thompson; 8th New York Heavy Artillery (detachment), Capt. James Maginnis; 8th New York Heavy Artillery, Company B, Lieut. Eli S. Nichols.

‡ Salisbury, Md.

§ Havre de Grace, Md.

‖ Newtown, Md.

*Abstract from return of the troops in the Department of the Susquehanna, Maj. Gen. Darius N. Couch, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of April, 1864; headquarters Chambersburg, Pa.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| Department staff | 10 | | 10 | 10 | | |
| Post troops,[a] Maj. Gen. G. Cadwalader: | | | | | | |
| Staff | 2 | | 2 | 2 | | |
| Infantry (nine companies) | 5 | 453 | 573 | 733 | | |
| Artillery (one company) | 5 | 132 | 152 | 152 | 58 | 3 |
| Total | 12 | 585 | 727 | 887 | 58 | 3 |
| Lehigh District,[b] Brig. Gen. O. S. Ferry: | | | | | | |
| Staff | 2 | | 2 | 2 | | |
| Infantry (four companies) | 14 | 331 | 352 | 382 | | |
| Artillery (one company) | 4 | 118 | 137 | 145 | | 4 |
| Total | 20 | 449 | 491 | 529 | | 4 |
| Post troops,[c] Lieut. Col. J. V. Bomford | 10 | 194 | 232 | 232 | | |
| Signal corps,[d] Lieut. G. W. Kennedy | | 58 | 58 | 65 | | |
| Chief quartermaster,[d] Capt. J. G. Johnson | 3 | | 3 | 4 | | |
| Chief commissary subsistence,[c] Capt. B. Granger | 5 | | 5 | 5 | | |
| 21st Pennsylvania Cavalry,[d] Col. W. H. Boyd | 33 | 922 | 1,035 | 1,297 | | |
| Detachment 1st Battalion Pennsylvania Infantry,[c] Lieut. Col. J. F. Ramsey. | 18 | 420 | 505 | 710 | | |
| Medical Director,[a] Surg. J. Campbell | 22 | | 22 | 22 | | |
| Post troops,[e] Capt. E. S. Wright | 11 | 17 | 35 | 48 | | |
| Grand total Department of the Susquehanna | 144 | 2,645 | 3,124 | 3,809 | 58 | 7 |

[a] Philadelphia. [b] Pottsville, Pa. [c] Harrisburg, Pa. [d] Chambersburg, Pa. [e] Pittsburg, Pa.

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*Troops in the Department of the Susquehanna, commanded by Maj. Gen. Darius N. Couch, U. S. Army, April 30, 1864.*

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE CADWALADER.

147th Pennsylvania, Company I, Capt. Charles Fair.
186th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Henry A. Frink.
Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery I, Capt. Robert J. Nevin.
Convalescents, Lieut. Col. Daniel P. Whiting.
Convalescents, provost guards, Lieut. Col. Henry A. Frink.

LEHIGH DISTRICT.*

Brig. Gen. ORRIS S. FERRY.

1st Battalion Pennsylvania Infantry (four companies), Lieut. Col. Joseph F. Ramsey.
1st New York Light Artillery, Battery A, Capt. Thomas H. Bates.
21st Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company D, Capt. Josiah C. Hullinger.

HARRISBURG, PA.

Lieut. Col. JAMES V. BOMFORD.

Patapsco (Maryland) Guards, Capt. Thomas S. McGowan.
184th Pennsylvania, Company B, Capt. J. Stanley Gerhart.

PITTSBURG, PA.

Capt. EDWARD S. WRIGHT.

109th Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Capt. Charles A. Edmonds.
Company U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps.†
Company Pennsylvania Militia.†

* At Pottsville, Scranton, Reading, Easton, Heckscherville, and Hazleton.
† Commander not of record.

YORK, PA.

Surg. HENRY PALMER.

20th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Company I, Capt. Robert T. Knox.
108th Company, U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. William Mitchell.

UNATTACHED.

21st Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. William H. Boyd.
Cavalry detachment, Lieut. Hancock T. McLean.
Detachment in the field, Lieut. Col. Louis Wagner.
Recruits, drafted men, &c., Capt. David P. Hancock.

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*Abstract from return of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of April, 1864.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters[a] | 40 | 130 | 170 | 194 | ... | ... |
| Fort Monroe, Va | 24 | 1,816 | 1,996 | 2,740 | ... | ... |
| Norfolk and Portsmouth, Va | 145 | 3,753 | 4,342 | 4,829 | 1 | 19 |
| Portsmouth, Va | 110 | 2,918 | 3,567 | 4,074 | ... | 6 |
| Newport News, Va | 4 | 55 | 62 | 91 | ... | 4 |
| Yorktown and vicinity, Va | 728 | 17,423 | 20,918 | 25,200 | ... | 64 |
| Gloucester Point, Va | 611 | 15,694 | 18,801 | 23,633 | ... | 38 |
| Eastville, Va | 2 | 67 | 69 | 92 | ... | ... |
| Williamsburg, Va | 68 | 1,392 | 1,636 | 1,722 | ... | 4 |
| District of Saint Mary's, Md | 63 | 1,672 | 2,070 | 2,546 | ... | ... |
| District of North Carolina: | | | | | | |
| Headquarters | 27 | 8 | 35 | 35 | ... | ... |
| Sub-district of New Berne | 204 | 4,174 | 5,348 | 8,193 | 62 | 75 |
| Sub-district of the Albemarle | 6 | 158 | 194 | 445 | 8 | 3 |
| Sub-district of Beaufort | 65 | 1,480 | 1,887 | 2,284 | 34 | 11 |
| Sub-district of the Pamlico | 9 | 203 | 238 | 320 | ... | ... |
| Total | 2,106 | 50,943 | 61,333 | 76,398 | 125 | 224 |

[a] Including signal corps.

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*Troops in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, April 30, 1864.*

FORT MONROE.

Col. JOSEPH ROBERTS.

3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (nine companies), Col. Joseph Roberts.

HOSPITAL GUARDS, &C.

U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, 2d Battalion, Capt. James R. Stone.

NAVAL BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES K. GRAHAM.

13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company I, Capt. Robert W. McLaughlin.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company K, Capt. John S. Gordon.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Company A, Lieut. William G. Rohrman.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Company B, Lieut. Louis A. Grill.

NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE F. SHEPLEY.

*Norfolk.*

1st U. S. Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. Charles A. R. Dimon.
20th New York Cavalry, Company M, Capt. Frederick Stewart.
13th New Hampshire Infantry (detachment), } Capt. Daniel Messinger.
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry (detachment), }
37th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Abial G. Chamberlain.

*Portsmouth.*

Brig. Gen. ISRAEL VOGDES.

2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 3d Battalion, Lieut. Col. Augustus B. R. Sprague.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery H, Capt. William J. Riggs.
8th New York Battery, Capt. Butler Fitch.
13th New York Heavy Artillery (eight companies), Lieut. Col. James J. Walsh.
20th New York Cavalry, Col. Nathan B. Lord.
1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery A, Capt. John G. Simpson.
38th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Dexter E. Clapp.

CAVALRY DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. AUGUST V. KAUTZ.

*First Brigade.*

Col. SIMON H. MIX.

1st District of Columbia, Maj. J. Stannard Baker.
3d New York, Lieut. Col. George W. Lewis.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR.

5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Maj. Christopher Kleinz.
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Lieut. Col. George Stetzel.

*Artillery.*

8th New York Battery (section), Lieut. Peter Morton.

YORKTOWN AND VICINITY.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH.

FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM T. H. BROOKS.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. GILMAN MARSTON.

81st New York, Col. Jacob J. De Forest.
96th New York, Col. Edgar M. Cullen.
98th New York, Col. Frederick F. Wead.
139th New York, Col. Samuel H. Roberts.

*Second Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. HIRAM BURNHAM.

8th Connecticut, Col. John E. Ward.
10th New Hampshire, Capt. Cornelius W. Strain.
13th New Hampshire, Col. Aaron F. Stevens.
118th New York, Col. Oliver Keese, jr.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. HORACE T. SANDERS.

188th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George K. Bowen.
19th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Rollin M. Strong.

*Artillery Brigade.*

Maj. THEODORE H. SCHENCK.

3d New York Light, Batteries K and M, Capt. James R. Angel.
4th United States, Battery L, Lieut. John S. Hunt.
5th United States, Battery A, Lieut. Charles P. Muhlenberg.
Wisconsin Light, 4th Battery, Capt. George B. Easterly.

*Unattached.*

16th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph J. Morrison.

SECOND DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Brig. Gen. ISAAC J. WISTAR.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES A. HECKMAN.

23d Massachusetts, Col. Andrew Elwell.
25th Massachusetts, Maj. Cornelius G. Atwood.
27th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Walter G. Bartholomew.
9th New Jersey, Col. Abram Zabriskie.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. GRIFFIN A. STEDMAN, Jr.

11th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. William C. Moegling.
2d New Hampshire, Col. Edward L. Bailey.
12th New Hampshire, Maj. John F. Langley.
148th New York, Col. George M. Guion.

*Artillery Brigade.*

Capt. FREDERICK M. FOLLETT.

New York Light, 7th Battery, Capt. Peter C. Regan.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery F, Capt. James Belger.
4th United States, Battery D, Lieut. James Thompson.

DIVISION U. S. COLORED TROOPS.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD W. HINKS.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. EDWARD A. WILD.

1st U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John H. Holman.
10th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Edward H. Powell.
22d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL A. DUNCAN.

4th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. George Rogers.
5th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. James W. Conine.
6th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John W. Ames.

*Artillery.*

2d U. S. Colored Light, Battery B, Capt. Francis C. Choate.

GLOUCESTER POINT (TENTH ARMY CORPS).

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. TERRY.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT S. FOSTER.

*First Brigade.*

Col. FRANCIS B. POND.

39th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Orrin L. Mann.
62d Ohio, Maj. Samuel B. Taylor.
67th Ohio, Col. Alvin C. Voris.
85th Pennsylvania, Maj. Isaac M. Abraham.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. HARRIS M. PLAISTED.

10th Connecticut, Col. John L. Otis.
11th Maine, Lieut. Col. Winslow P. Spofford.
24th Massachusetts (detachment), Col. Francis A. Osborn.
100th New York, Col. George B. Dandy.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

7th Connecticut, Maj. Oliver S. Sanford.
3d New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton.
7th New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott.

*Artillery Brigade.*

Capt. ALFRED P. ROCKWELL.

Connecticut Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell.
New Jersey Light, 5th Battery, Capt. Zenas C. Warren.

SECOND DIVISION.

Col. SAMUEL M. ALFORD.

*First Brigade.*

Col. GUY V. HENRY.

40th Massachusetts, Capt. Horatio Jenkins, jr.
3d New York, Lieut. Col. Eldridge G. Floyd.
89th New York, Lieut. Col. Theophilus L. England.
117th New York, Maj. Rufus Daggett.
142d New York, Lieut. Col. Albert M. Barney.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM B. BARTON.

47th New York, Lieut. Col. Christopher R. MacDonald.
48th New York, Lieut. Col. Dudley W. Strickland.
115th New York, Maj. Ezra L. Walrath.

*Artillery Brigade.*

Capt. GEORGE T. WOODBURY.

New Jersey Light, 4th Battery, Capt. George T. Woodbury.
1st United States, Battery B, Capt. Samuel S. Elder.
1st United States, Battery D, Lieut. John S. Gibbs.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.

*First Brigade.*

Col. RICHARD WHITE.

9th Maine, Col. Sabine Emery.
4th New Hampshire, Col. Louis Bell.
55th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Frank T. Bennett.
97th Pennsylvania, Col. Henry R. Guss.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. JOHN D. RUST.

13th Indiana, Col. Cyrus J. Dobbs.
8th Maine, Lieut. Col. Henry Boynton.
112th New York, Col. Jeremiah C. Drake.
169th New York, Col. John McConihe.

*Artillery Brigade.*

Capt. ALGER M. WHEELER.

New York Light, 33d Battery, Capt. Alger M. Wheeler.
3d United States, Battery E, Lieut. Joseph P. Sanger.

UNATTACHED TROOPS.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry, 1st Battalion, Maj. Atherton H. Stevens, jr.
1st New York Engineers (eight companies), Col. Edward W. Serrell.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA.

16th New York Battery, Lieut. Richard H. Lee.

EASTVILLE, VA.

Purnell (Maryland) Legion Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Robert E. Duvall.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA.

Col. ROBERT M. WEST.

1st New York Mounted Rifles, Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery E, Capt. George E. Ashby.
1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery E, Capt. Thomas G. Orwig.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. Jeptha Garrard.
2d U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. George W. Cole.

DISTRICT OF SAINT MARY'S, MD.

Col. ALONZO G. DRAPER.

5th New Hampshire, Col. Charles E. Hapgood.
4th Rhode Island, Col. William H. P. Steere.
36th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Benjamin F. Pratt.
2d U. S. Cavalry (detachment), 5th U. S. Cavalry (detachment), } Lieut. John Mix.
2d Wisconsin Battery, Capt. Charles Beger.

## DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER.

SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE.

Col. THOMAS J. C. AMORY.

*Infantry.*

15th Connecticut, Col. Charles L. Upham.
17th Massachusetts, Maj. Luther Day.
99th New York, Lieut. Col. Richard Nixon.
132d New York, Col. Peter J. Claassen,
158th New York, Lieut. Col. William H. McNary.
1st North Carolina, Maj. Charles C. Graves.

*Cavalry.*

12th New York, Col. James W. Savage.

*Artillery.*

New York Light, 23d Battery, Capt. Alfred Ransom.
2d Massachusetts Heavy (two companies), Maj. Samuel C. Oliver.
3d New York Light, Col. Charles H. Stewart.
5th Rhode Island Heavy, Col. Henry T. Sisson.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE.

Col. DAVID W. WARDROP.

16th Connecticut (detachment), Capt. John H. Burnham.
85th New York (detachment), Lieut. Col. Will W. Clarke.
101st Pennsylvania (detachment), Lieut. David M. Ramsey.
103d Pennsylvania (detachment), Capt. Thomas A. Cochran.
24th New York Battery, Lieut. George S. Hastings.

SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT.

Col. JAMES JOURDAN.

*Beaufort.*

2d North Carolina, Col. Walter S. Poor.

*Croatan Station.*

5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company A, Capt. John Aigan.

*Fort Macon.*

Lieut. Col. HENRY M. STONE.

2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company A, Lieut. Alfred H. Pulsifer.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company D, Lieut. Samuel R. Bingham.

*Morehead City.*

158th New York (detachment), Capt. George W. McConn.
1st North Carolina, Company B, Capt. Charles A. Lyons.
1st North Carolina, Company D, Capt. William H. King.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company C, Capt. Charles B. Newton.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery D (section), Lieut. David D. Hillis.
1st U. S. Artillery, Battery C (detachment), Lieut. Egbert W. Olcott.

*Newport Barracks.*

Col. EDWARD H. RIPLEY.

9th Vermont, Col. Edward H. Ripley.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company B, Capt. Nehemiah P. Fuller.
12th New York Cavalry, Company E, Capt. Raymond Ferguson.
23d New York Cavalry, Companies A and B, Capt. Emory Cummings.
1st U. S. Artillery, Battery C (detachment), Lieut. Redmond Tully.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE PAMLICO.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND.

1st North Carolina (two companies), Capt. Richard J. Allen.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (two companies), Capt. James Moran.

## CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 1. } *January* 1, 1864.

A furlough of thirty days will be granted to every enlisted man who shall secure to any company of the Army of Northern Virginia an able-bodied recruit, physically qualified to perform the duties of a soldier, of good moral character, who is not a deserter or absent without leave from any other command, who could be received under ordinary circumstances under the regulations of the War Department governing enlistments, who shall enlist unconditionally for the war, and actually be present and ready to report for duty with his command.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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LOST RIVER, *January* 1, 1863 [1864].

Major-General EARLY, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Arrived here last night. Found mountain covered with snow some 2 inches deep. The ascent and descent were very steep, and road very slippery and bad. Have heard nothing from my artillery. Ordered it to get as far up mountain as possible last night and encamp and try and cross to-day. I hardly think they will succeed. Can hear nothing of wagons, either. They will be obliged to come through Brock's Gap, I expect, and it is a question when they will catch me. The road I traversed is almost impracticable for vehicles, so steep and slippery. I am afraid General Lee has had erroneous information about the supplies of this country. My investigations so far show only some cattle on Patterson's Creek. My force is only now about 1,150 or 1,200 men; the force at Petersburg is between 800 and 900 infantry and four pieces of artillery. I will have to wait so long for my artillery it will be doubtful whether I can do anything toward capturing or defeating them. In the mean time information will be given, teams will be doubled, and I will have to leave. If you could spare more force and send it to me something might be achieved. The severe weather and recent hard trip is telling on my men and horses, and their number is diminishing daily.

Very respectfully,

FITZ. LEE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—The great expedition to supply the army I am very much afraid will be a failure. First, because there is nothing in the country, and secondly, not enough people to capture them from enemy.

Respectfully,

F. L.,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS IMBODEN'S BRIGADE,
*January* 1, 1863 [1864].

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The wagons sent by Major Bell have not yet arrived. I expect them to-night. From present information of the force at

Charlestown, and the delay that has necessarily elapsed, I do not think it safe to attempt to bring out supplies from Clarke County. If I had been able to proceed immediately on my arrival here it could have been done, but having loaded ten of the wagons with me with leather, I only had a few left, and had to wait for Major Bell's. There are few supplies to be had, except in Clarke. Prisoners report the arrival of one regiment of Averell's command (Second Virginia) at Martinsburg by the cars. They agree in their reports, and one whom I had an opportunity of cross-questioning undoubtedly belonged to that regiment. They report that the whole of Averell's force is being sent to Martinsburg. If this is true I cannot safely attempt to cut the railroad. If not, and there is no movement from Charlestown, I will attempt it. If General Thomas' brigade could be safely advanced to Winchester the wagons could be all loaded with supplies in Clarke, principally flour, though a little cloth and some leather and meat could be obtained. Without this I consider the risk to trains, which would have to be loaded piecemeal at many different places, too great.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. SMITH,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

P. S.—I will send the earliest information I get from Martinsburg.

[Indorsement.]

STRASBURG, *January* 2, 1864.

Major-General EARLY,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I shall move my command this morning to Middletown. Shall I remain there after the wagons pass? A great many of my men are without shoes, so I hope we will have as little marching as possible.

Very respectfully,

EDWARD L. THOMAS,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MOUNT JACKSON, *January* 1, 1864.

General Thomas will move the bridge constructed and pass his brigade over to Middletown, keeping a good lookout and protecting the wagons. If there is a prospect of reloading them let them be unloaded at Woodstock and sent back to Colonel Smith. There is some baggage here for your brigade (one load), which you can send one of your wagons for. I am just starting for Hardy.

J. A. EARLY,
*Major-General.*

---

JANUARY 1, 1864.

[Col. GEORGE H. SMITH:]

COLONEL: Let me know in reference to having the wagons unloaded at Woodstock, as proposed by General Early.

EDWARD L. THOMAS,
*Brigadier-General.*

HEADQUARTERS, *January* 2, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President of the Confederate States:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: The time is at hand when, if an attempt can be made to capture the enemy's forces at New Berne, it should be done. I can now spare troops for the purpose, which will not be the case as spring approaches. If I have been correctly informed, a brigade from this army, with Barton's brigade (Pickett's division), now near Kinston, will be sufficient, if the attack can be secretly and suddenly made. New Berne is defended on the land side by a line of intrenchments from the Neuse to the Trent. A redoubt near the Trent protects that flank, while three or four gun-boats are relied upon to defend the flank on the Neuse. The garrison has been so long unmolested, and experiences such a feeling of security, that it is represented as careless. The gun-boats are small and indifferent, and do not keep up a head of steam. A bold party could descend the Neuse in boats at night, capture the gun-boats, and drive the enemy by their aid from the works on that side of the river, while a force should attack them in front. A large amount of provisions and other supplies are said to be at New Berne, which are much wanted for this army, besides much that is reported in the country that will thus be made accessible to us. The gun-boats, aided by the iron-clads building on the Neuse and Roanoke, would clear the waters of the enemy and capture their transports, which could be used for transportation. I have not heard what progress is making in the completion of the iron-clads, or when they will be ready for service. A bold naval officer will be required for the boat expedition, with suitable men and officers to man the boats and serve the gun-boats when captured. Can they be had?

I have sent General Early, with two brigades of infantry and two of cavalry, under Fitz. Lee, to Hardy and Hampshire Counties to endeavor to get out some cattle that are reported within the enemy's lines, but the weather has been so unfavorable that I fear he will not meet with much success. The heavy rain-storm will swell all the streams beyond fording, and the cold weather and snow in the mountains will present other obstacles. Many of the infantry are without shoes, and the cavalry worn down by their pursuit of Averell. We are now issuing to the troops a fourth of a pound of salt meat, and have only three days' supply at that rate. Two droves of cattle from the West that were reported to be for this army have, I am told, been directed to Richmond. I can learn of no supply of meat on the road to the army, and fear I shall be unable to obtain it in the field.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

---

MIDDLETOWN, VA., *January* 3, 1864.

Major-General EARLY,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: It is reported that the enemy, in considerable force, have made their appearance at Front Royal. I sent one of my regiments early this morning to Strasburg to guard the road leading out to Front Royal, should they attempt to cross the river. I think it

prudent to move my whole command back to Fisher's Hill, the other side of Strasburg. I am expecting to hear from the river again this morning. Colonel Smith states that he has given up all hope of being able to cut the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, but will try to get out some supplies from Clarke County. I have sent you one or two couriers, but have heard nothing from them. I expect to hear from Colonel Smith this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD L. THOMAS,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MIDDLETOWN, *January* 3, 1864.

Major-General EARLY,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Scouts just in from Front Royal state that the estimated force of the enemy at that place last night was between 10,000 and 12,000, with six pieces of artillery. They remained there until about 12 o'clock this morning, when they moved off down the Wapping road and turned in toward Berry's Ferry. I have some scouts still on the other side of the river watching their movements. Colonel Smith has just moved his command to this point; will picket the roads leading to this place, scouting up toward Winchester. My command is now at Strasburg. Colonel Smith thinks it useless to make any further efforts to get out supplies, &c., in this section. The enemy were reported moving from Martinsburg to Winchester in heavy force this morning. A small party were in Winchester.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD L. THOMAS,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

MIDDLETOWN, *January* 3, 1864.

Colonel SMITH, *Commanding, &c.:*

COLONEL: I have been unable to learn anything this morning as to the strength of the enemy at Front Royal. From what I can learn I think there is no doubt about a force being there. I consider it best to move my command back to Strasburg, so as to hold the roads leading into that place. You had better cover the roads coming to Middletown. I will have Captain Norwood, assistant adjutant-general, to confer with you in reference to this matter. I have sent a note to General Early this morning; I expect to hear from him soon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD L. THOMAS,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS IMBODEN'S BRIGADE,
*January* 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Three of General Rosser's men from Newtown report that the enemy have gone back. One of them was near Winchester,

on the Pughtown road, this morning, and reports that there were 500 or 600 cavalry in Winchester (the force that was at Newtown). He heard a report, or rather rumor, that there were 3,000 infantry at Bunker Hill. I directed the men to report to you. One of my scouts from Front Royal reports that the enemy (2,000 strong) left there yesterday morning on the Wapping road, by which I understand he could either recross the mountains or move to any part lower on the river. Captain Hill, who was sent yesterday with his company toward Front Royal from Newtown, returned this morning, and confirms the report that the Yankees left yesterday morning by the Wapping road. He says that they had four separate camps, probably (judging by fires) of brigades. I am encamped at Stickley's farm, about a mile this side of Cedar Run, and about three-quarters of a mile off the road, having succeeded in finding hay and fodder here.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. SMITH,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 4, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: I have received a report from Colonel Willis, commanding Georgia regiment, of his operations up to the 31st ultimo. Colonel Willis was sent by me through the counties of Rappahannock, Page, Madison, and Greene to arrest deserters and stragglers from this army, some of whom have been secreted there a year or more. He has executed his work thoroughly and has arrested about 200. He is now in Rockingham, moving southward. He states, from his observation—

> The enrolling and conscript officers are generally disposed to lack energy and neglect their duty, and also that the system of details at furnaces, &c., authorized by the Government, is greatly abused, and many exempts, as tanners, blacksmiths, shoemakers, &c., violate openly the condition of the law upon which their exemption is based. Moreover, it is useless for me to arrest citizens for knowingly and voluntarily harboring deserters. I made several such arrests, when the proof was indubitable, and the provost-marshal was compelled to release them. Under these circumstances I have ceased to arrest them.

I have no doubt if I could send parties to sweep through every county of the State similar results and evidences of inefficiency and abuse would be obtained. You may recollect that last fall I sent an officer with a regiment to certain counties in North Carolina, where I still have a party operating. These detachments weaken the army, and I have only resorted to them when in despair of otherwise mitigating the evil.

My object in sending you the within extract from Colonel Willis is to see if more energy and efficiency cannot be infused into the operations of the enrolling officers. They ought also to see that the exempts do not abuse the conditions upon which their exemption is based.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

RICHMOND, VA., *January* 4, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: Your letter of 2d received. The Commissary-General of Subsistence has ordered some 90,000 pounds of salt meat from Wilmington for your army. He has no knowledge of the droves of cattle referred to. The emergency justifies impressment from stock on hand for year's consumption by private parties and corporations of so much as is required for immediate use of army. This should be done so as to be most equal and least odious. The progress on the boats of the Neuse and Roanoke is slow and too uncertain to fix a date for completion. Your suggestion is approved, but who can and will execute it? You could give it form, which would insure success, but without your personal attention I fear such failures as have elsewhere been suffered. It would be well to send the brigade, and if circumstances permit, you had better go down; otherwise, I will go myself, though it could only be for a very few days, Congress being in session.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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WILMINGTON, *January* 4, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Can you send me another brigade? I need troops very much. The enemy are sounding Shallotte and Lockwood's Folly. A brigade in that vicinity and two light batteries are absolutely necessary.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Would it not be well to execute the order to send Clingman's brigade to Goldsborough? It would then be in position to act promptly either for the defense of the railroad or Wilmington.

J. D.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 5, 1864.

Col. L. B. NORTHROP,
*Commissary-General, Richmond, Va.:*

COLONEL: Your letter of the 7th ultimo reached here during my absence in Richmond, and I have not been able to reply to it since my return until now.

I regret very much to learn that the supply of beef for the Army is so nearly exhausted. I have endeavored since first taking command to collect for its use all the provisions I could, and am still making every effort in my power to gather subsistence in front of our line of operations. No beef has been issued to the Cavalry Corps by the chief commissary, that I am aware of, for eighteen months. During that time it has supplied itself, and has now, I understand, sufficient to last it until the middle of February.

The commissaries of the other corps, under orders of the chief commissary of the army, have purchased all the cattle and provisions within their reach. This is the only relief I can afford to the subsistence department in supplying the army. I cannot adopt your suggestions to employ the organization of your bureau to impress provisions. Neither the law or regulations of the War Department, in my opinion, give me that power. I am authorized by the orders of the Department to impress provisions and forage when occasion required, and I have exercised that power under certain emergencies, through the proper officers of this army, but withdrew it when the necessity passed. You wish me to do it continuously, to accumulate supplies for the troops, and to give orders to that effect to the officers and agents of your bureau, over whom I cannot legitimately exercise any control. As I understand the law and regulations on the subject, you can be empowered to do this by the Secretary of War, and I should consider that I was going beyond my province were I to assume that authority.

I have been mortified to find that when any scarcity existed this was the only army in which it is found necessary to reduce the rations. My information not being official, and derived from officers of other armies, I may be mistaken, but I have never heard of any reduction in the meat ration issued to the troops in and about Richmond, Petersburg, Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, or in the Southwest. Many of these troops are in a measure stationary, less exposed to the inclemency of the weather, and undergoing less hardship and danger than the troops of this army. Many of them could with propriety, I think, be placed on lighter diet than troops in the field, and it may have been the case without coming to my knowledge. I understand that at the present time the army of General Johnston is receiving full rations of meat, bread, rice, molasses, and some whisky, while in this army only a quarter of a pound of salt and three-quarters of a pound of fresh meat are being issued. We have also had in addition half rations of sugar and coffee, one day's issue of fruit, and some lard. These latter articles have been of great advantage. I am always glad to hear of troops receiving abundance of provisions at any point, but think all ought to fare alike, if possible. It stops complaint and produces more contentment.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *Orange, January* 5, 1864.

General SAMUEL JONES,
*Commanding Department of Western Virginia:*

GENERAL: It is with difficulty that I can procure meat for this army, even by issuing half rations. Mr. William Eggleston, Eggleston's Springs, Giles County, is the commissary agent for District No. 4, and has been sending some cattle to us, from whom a lot is now due. I have thought you might facilitate his operations and assist him in getting out cattle. If you can I think you would do so and procure all t. e provisions for this army you can.

I have sent two brigades of infantry and two of cavalry into Hardy and Hampshire, with a view of obtaining some cattle that are said

to be there and within the enemy's lines; but the weather has been so unfavorable for their operations that I fear the expedition will not meet with much success. In addition, the enemy will hear of the movement.

Are there any cattle in the western counties that could be procured? Please inform me when the railroad will be repaired or when I could expect communications with Longstreet will be opened, and whether any provisions can be obtained in that quarter more than he is likely to require.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

---

WILMINGTON, *January* 5, 1864.

Colonel GORGAS:

My 30-pounder Parrott burst yesterday fighting the enemy at Lockwood's Folly, killing 1 man and wounding officer in charge. It was at third fire. This is all the Parrott gun I have. Hurry the others. All the guns I have seen lately are defective; should be tested and examined. Send this to General Cooper.

W. H. C. WHITING.

[First indorsement.]

Colonel GORGAS:

Can you not at once supply the wants of General Whiting as within? If you can, please do so.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Second indorsement.]

JANUARY 6, 1864.

General COOPER:

There are arms on the way to him, and I have asked Colonel Stevens for the gun known as "Long Tom," now on the defenses here.

J. GORGAS.

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *January* 6, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

One hundred and twenty-five cattle, 25 wagon loads hides, 125 mules, 200 prisoners captured in Hardy will reach Harrisonburg to-day.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Mount Jackson, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have just received your letter of the 3d instant. I very much regret the difficulties that beset your undertaking, and

particularly that you are deprived of General Imboden's counsel. I hope you will get all the information you require from his officers or the men in the country.

You will find, I think Captain McNeill bold and intelligent, and others in the cavalry. Take all possible care of the men and horses. The report I sent by telegraph of General Gregg's movement is confirmed. It is stated he left Warrenton Friday, the 1st instant, and crossed over to Front Royal. He is said to have with him two brigades of cavalry and five pieces of artillery. I have not heard of him since.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS IMBODEN'S BRIGADE,
*January* 6, 1863 [1864].

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I sent Captain Muse, Eighteenth Virginia Cavalry, with 50 men with orders to scout to and beyond Winchester. Captain Muse has returned, but, I am sorry to say, brings no satisfactory information. He reports that 300 of the enemy entered Winchester this morning, 150 of whom went out on the Northwestern pike and were heard from 3 miles out. The rest left town as he entered it, on the Martinsburg road, and halted about a mile out of town. Small pickets still remaining on the Berryville and Millwood roads. Captain Muse based his information of the numbers of the enemy upon the statements of citizens well known to him as reliable men. If you have no use for Captain Blackford I would be obliged if you would direct him to report to me. I send you your mail, which has been forwarded to me by mistake.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. SMITH,
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Petersburg, Va., January* 6, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjt. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a report just received from Brigadier-General Barton. He takes, I conceive, a very square view of the whole circumstance. General Whiting has been, and is still, very anxious for the safety of Wilmington. The weather and bad roads will prevent, for some time to come, any offensive movement on the part of the enemy in Northern Virginia. The probability, then, is that unless they intend to be perfectly inactive during the winter months some movements will be made against us either in this department or farther south. We should be prepared, and with the present scattered force (necessarily so from the extent of country to guard) under my command I doubt whether such an attack as will be made, should any be attempted, can be properly

met. I therefore request an additional number of troops be sent to this department at once. My purpose is to establish them at Goldsborough. From that point they can easily be transported by rail to Kinston or to Wilmington, or would form a nucleus, should the enemy by numbers have pushed us, around which to gather troops from Weldon, Petersburg, and such other points as could best spare them. These troops thus posted at Goldsborough, being on the railroad, could, in case the main and real attack be made upon Charleston or Savannah, be pushed on rapidly to either of these places. Everything goes to induce the belief that the enemy mean something, and that at an early day. Kinston must be held if possible, as it is the key to that whole country. No movement can be made upon Wilmington from New Berne without first clearing us out of Kinston. At the latter place is a gun-boat partially completed; this would have to be sacrificed. There is an abundance of railroad iron, which will answer for the armor of this boat, at and near Kinston. I beg it be completed at once, as it would, when properly armed, prove a most valuable addition to our defenses on the Neuse.

Hoping, general, these suggestions may meet with the approval of the Department,

I remain, sir, with much respect, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 8, 1864.

Order Clingman's brigade to or within reach of General Whiting at Wilmington, and Kemper's brigade to Petersburg, and order General Pickett and General Whiting to co-operate.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS, *Kinston, January 5*, 1864.

Maj. C. PICKETT,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:*

MAJOR: I have received reports from scout below. Letter dated yesterday says that he has reliable information that General Butler has instructed General Peck to organize his whole available force and push forward to Goldsborough by way of Kinston; to hold Goldsborough at all hazards; that additional force will be sent him. He had intelligence from Morehead City on the 2d instant. No reenforcements had arrived at either place, though a force was expected at the latter. Another letter from New Berne, dated 2d instant, gives similar information, with the addition that re-enforcements were being received at New Berne. It is highly improbable that Butler's instructions to Peck should be k own to the public or to any one likely to impart them to my scout; but should there be evidence that Wilmington is to be attacked, the course laid down for Peck is the one he would necessarily follow. . Any attacking column of sufficient size to imperil Wilmington must take a route which would necessitate the possession by the enemy of this point and the destruction or disabling of the railroad. Without knowing whether such an attack is contemplated, I think proper to advise you of this

rumor, the value of which you are more able to appreciate. You are aware of the aversion I felt to dividing my small brigade by the detachment of a regiment to Greenville; events have shown that a force there was necessary, and is so yet. I should seriously feel the absence of this regiment should any occasion for the troops here arise, and would be glad of any arrangements which could return it to the brigade.

General Ransom has heretofore garrisoned that place. If he could spare a regiment for that purpose I think much would be gained thereby. A force would be necessary there should a movement be made against this point, for I suppose there would be a corresponding movement from Plymouth and Washington to divert and prevent re-enforcement, even were there not a serious one in flank made. I will endeavor to post you promptly of any indications of a speedy movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, January* 6, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: I telegraphed yesterday my great need of another brigade of infantry, and at least two batteries of artillery. I have no troops at all to operate on the south side of the river. The positions of Lockwood's Folly and Shallotte should be constantly watched and occupied. I do not exaggerate the importance of this. A surprise, even a landing at either of these points, must result in great disaster. Martin's brigade is not enough to guard the approaches to the eastward, equally exposed. I inclose a copy of a letter to the Secretary of War of September 21 [August 31], 1863, on this same matter. I beg you will read it and consider my request. The attention of the enemy has been directed to the Shallotte and Lockwood's Folly; they are sounding out the approaches. Any landing at either point seriously threatens Smithville, on which depends the security of the whole system of defense for the harbor. I have no troops to protect it. Manifestly the garrisons of the forts cannot leave their positions to oppose an advance, even if they were adequate in numbers, which is not the case. Nearly all the armies appear to be in winter quarters. Is it not practicable to let me have troops which, otherwise inactive, might winter here and do great service by the security they would give to this place, on which depends our supplies and our credit? My force is altogether too small; the exposed points are numerous and vital; my means of transportation are very limited, and I warn the Department of the danger of leaving so much to chance and to the inactivity of the enemy. My need is very great, especially of infantry and light artillery. It should also be recollected that while I have very greatly added to the works here and strengthened them, nearly doubling the number of guns, not a man has been added to the garrisons.

Please not to postpone the consideration of this subject.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

JANUARY 7, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War. Important and immediate.

The two light batteries have been ordered to General Whiting from Petersburg.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Second indorsement.]

JANUARY 7, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Forward these papers or copies to General Lee. Unless he can spare, during the pause in active operations caused by the winter, the additional force required, I really do not see whence it can be commanded. The forces at Petersburg and along the line hardly suffice now to guard, and could illy spare any abstraction. I feel seriously apprehensive lest an attack during the winter be made on Wilmington, and its importance to us can hardly be overestimated.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

[Third indorsement.]

JANUARY 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Lee, in accordance with the above.

I have to-day telegraphed General Pickett to send Clingman's North Carolina brigade, at Petersburg, to General Whiting, with two batteries of Branch's Light Artillery, and have sent directions to General Elzey to order Kemper's brigade from Hanover Junction to replace Clingman at Petersburg. This is all we can do at present with respect to the force around Richmond.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *January* 12, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Secretary of War.

I am unable to judge at this distance of the danger threatening Wilmington. I cannot see that the enemy is collecting any force against it, and when he does he must withdraw it from some other point, whence our forces must also move to meet it. This is the only way that I know of resisting an attack upon it. If the defenses of Wilmington require "the constant presence of an army," I do not see where it is to come from. I see no danger in using the garrison of the forts to resist a landing or approach at other points to gain time for concentration of troops. I think Martin's brigade and two light batteries sufficient to watch the threatened point. The custom of the enemy when he wishes to attack one point is to threaten a distant one; the troops are rushed to the threatened point and the real point is exposed. I could at this time send some troops from here, but when should I get them back? Then it would be

seen that it was impossible to withdraw them. Three divisions of this army, and they of the best, are now scattered over the country, and I see no prospect of recovering them. The troops want some rest, some time for reorganization and recruiting their ranks. The enemy is making great efforts to reorganize their army in my immediate front. Large bounties are given to those who re-enlist. Many are re-enlisting by means of their people at home, so as to prevent the draft. Conscripts to their ranks are also daily arriving. According to our scouts on the Potomac, over 2,000 have come up to Alexandria since the beginning of this year. I see nothing doing on our part, and I fear the spring will open upon us and find us without an army.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

JANUARY 15, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War, whose attention is specially invited to the within remarks of General Lee.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*August* 31, 1863.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond:*

SIR: Suppose the map of North Carolina before you and allow me to illustrate briefly only a single phase in the condition of Wilmington and its probable attack or defense. Suppose me without an army, or at most with but a single brigade, a force much larger than I really have at my command. The enemy, after due preparation, of which we may or may not have received notice, lands a strong force at Shallotte, 18 miles from Fort Caswell and 36 miles from Wilmington, a point much more suitable for his operations and more convenient than Light-House Inlet at Charleston. Once landed, as I have not the force at hand to fight at once, three courses are open to him, either of which will be demonstrably fatal. He can advance on Fort Caswell, as he is doing on Sumter, slowly but securely, strengthening always his position and the tenacity of his grip on the land, or, which a bolder foe would do at once, march upon Smithville, take its batteries in reverse, cut off Fort Caswell and shortly destroy it, or march directly upon the city and in its front, secure from attack by the obstacles of Brunswick River and the Cape Fear, plant his long-range guns, and at the easy distance of 2 miles destroy the city, close up the river, and turn all the formidable batteries against naval attack, on which so much labor has been expended.

All this is not only possible but highly probable. There are, besides, other lines of attack, equally feasible. I use the description of this in particular only to illustrate what I wish to impress, that the whole system of the plan of the defense adopted here (the only plan, indeed, which can be successful) depends on the presence, I might almost say the constant presence, of an army. On that, and that

alone, depends the safety of the flank; and not only that, but on the rapidity and success of the attack of that army rest the safety of Caswell and Fisher, of this the last harbor left to us, and the city, an important point, however considered.

To have this army assemble, but assemble too late, would, it seems to me, only increase the disaster. I hope that nothing here will be left to chance. The assembling a force, and such a force as would undoubtedly be required, will take, in the present condition of our transportation and resources, a long time—time that we cannot afford to lose. While the railroads are constantly deteriorating they are liable to be cut off daily. I have intimated that a large force is required here.

Let me illustrate by again referring to the map, and suppose the enemy attempting the southerly line of attack, with but a small force at my command. I throw my troops to the west of the Cape Fear River, and the fate of Fort Fisher and the harbor is sealed. I know no place now in the Confederacy where the presence of a large body of veteran troops is more necessary or more important than this. It is necessary now to prevent possible and by no means improbable disaster, and to be ready. In the event of attack their presence will be indispensable. I beg that you will not consider me importunate in this matter. It oppresses me. It is not at all for me to make a comparison with the importance of this as compared with any other part or movement of the war; it is only for me to call attention to the case, and to point out the necessities and indicate the means of defense. I hope you will please to lay the subject before the President for his consideration.

When Vicksburg was threatened, if I am correctly informed, 20,000 troops were not thought insufficient. At that time Vicksburg was a point first in importance. It has fallen. I think now this place is quite as important as Vicksburg was then. When it is attacked, in the changed circumstances which now may be observed, the fewer objects of attack for the enemy, the greater power of concentrating his forces on a single point and the increased need on our part to hold this with certainty. I must say that less than 20,000 men will hardly succeed.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *January* 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

Your letter of 6th instant received. Order Clingman's brigade to be within reach of General Whiting, and to be subject to his orders when needed. It will be replaced at Petersburg by Kemper's brigade from Hanover Junction. You and General Whiting must co-operate and keep up intercommunication for that purpose. You will communicate this dispatch to General Whiting.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Petersburg, Va., January* 8, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: Your telegram in answer to my communication of 6th is at hand. One of General Clingman's regiments is on the Blackwater; the other three are in camp near this place, and General Clingman is quite anxious not to go back. I would advise, and I think you will agree with me, that it were better not to send any North Carolina troops into North Carolina at present, if possible. The complexion of affairs there now is very threatening, and the presence of other men whom we could depend on might be of infinite service in case of internal trouble. For these reasons I shall prefer sending Kemper's brigade directly through to Goldsborough. I will have the necessary transportation ready to-morrow night for a brigade. If you coincide with me about Kemper, Captain Symington will telegraph me immediately, and I can retain the train till next day. If not, he will still inform me of your determination, and I will take proper steps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

9 P. M.

P. S.—By telegram just received from General Elzey, I learn that Kemper's brigade will be here in the morning. As transportation could not be furnished before to-morrow evening I will await your answer by telegram through Captain Symington as to whether I shall send Kemper directly on.

G. E. P.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 8, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: I take the liberty of inclosing for your consideration a letter* received from Major Richards, of the quartermaster's department, inclosing one* to him from Mr. Whitcomb, superintendent of the Virginia Central Railroad. Major Richards is the officer stationed at Gordonsville, charged with the transportation of supplies over the Central and Orange and Alexandria Railroads to this army.

When last in Richmond I had a conversation with Mr. Whitcomb on the subject of transportation over his road, and was led to believe that this year it would be attended with no difficulty. He then expected to hire 500 hands on the 1st of January, which would give him ample labor for all his purposes. It seems he has been disappointed and anticipates greater trouble in his operations than ever. The road is now barely able to furnish limited transportation. If this is diminished it will be impossible for me to keep the army in its present position, when the railroad as well as country will be exposed to ravages of the enemy. The company is able to pay the

* Not found.

necessary labor, and it is its duty as well as interest to do so. I have thought the subject of sufficient importance to bring it to your attention.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *January* 8, 1864.

General J. A. EARLY:

Dispatch of to-day received. I wish you to secure all provisions and stores for army you can. After that is done troops can return to former camps by easy marches, or be made comfortable where they are during this cold weather. Valley companies can go home for ten days and recruit; not to go in lower valley. I would suggest as the best route by Mount Crawford, through Brown's Gap. Rosser's brigade will encamp near Port Republic.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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JANUARY 8, 1864.

Mr. Frank Manzy, from Baltimore yesterday, reports 3,000 men from Meade's army sent to re-enforce Kelley at New Creek; 5,000 or 6,000 men from same army sent home on furlough to Massachusetts to reorganize, and Meade cannot move. Butler at Washington, and is organizing a large cavalry force to move from Yorktown on Richmond by the way of the Peninsula. A large quantity of commissary stores and forage already landed there, and probably three brigades of negroes at Canton, Md., under Birney, will re-enforce this expedition; 200 operatives from Meade's army sent to Nashville to repair railroad from Bridgeport to Chattanooga, and 200 more soon to be sent; 1,400 men sent from Baltimore to Sandusky, Ohio, to prevent rescue or escape of Confederate prisoners.*

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ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, January* 9, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Comdg. Army of Northern Va., Orange Court-House:*

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Longstreet has asked to be relieved from his present command and corps. Would you advise his exchange with Lieutenant-General Ewell? Please answer for information of the President.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *January* 9, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT, *Petersburg, Va.:*

Send Kemper's brigade to re-enforce General Whiting, instead of Clingman's, which was directed yesterday.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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* Without address or signature.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 10, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 9th instant in reference to request of General Longstreet to be relieved from his present command and of his corps. I do not know the reasons that have induced him to take this step, but hope that they are not such as to make it necessary. I do not know any one to take his place in either position. I do not think it advantageous that he and Lieutenant-General Ewell should exchange corps, believing that each corps would be more effective as at present organized. I cannot, therefore, recommend their exchange.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, January* 10, 1864; *headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | |
| Staff | 11 | ..... | 11 | 20 |
| Early's division | 433 | 4,714 | 6,264 | 11,479 |
| Johnson's division | 437 | 4,476 | 5,638 | 10,547 |
| Rodes' division[a] | 475 | 6,134 | 8,089 | 13,947 |
| Total | 1,356 | 15,324 | 20,002 | 35,993 |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | |
| Staff | 12 | ..... | 12 | 17 |
| Anderson's division | 436 | 5,957 | 7,344 | 12,245 |
| Heth's division[b] | 278 | 4,391 | 5,263 | 8,223 |
| Wilcox's division[c] | 348 | 4,972 | 6,131 | 9,119 |
| Total | 1,074 | 15,320 | 18,750 | 29,604 |
| Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: | | | | |
| Staff | 12 | ..... | 12 | 17 |
| Hampton's division | 297 | 3,931 | 4,949 | 9,403 |
| Fitzhugh Lee's division | 274 | 3,617 | 4,479 | 7,915 |
| Total | 583 | 7,548 | 9,440 | 17,335 |
| Artillery Corps. Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 16 | 365 | 417 | 560 |
| Second Army Corps | 78 | 1,513 | 1,823 | 2,559 |
| Third Army Corps | 104 | 2,104 | 2,527 | 3,310 |
| Cavalry Corps | 22 | 356 | 427 | 594 |
| Total | 220 | 4,338 | 5,194 | 7,023 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | |
| Valley District[d] | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Maryland Line | 48 | 701 | 844 | 1,315 |
| Provost guard | 21 | 275 | 378 | 572 |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 3 | 97 | 127 | 193 |
| Total | 72 | 1,073 | 1,349 | 2,080 |
| Grand total | 3,305 | 43,603 | 54,735 | 92,035 |

[a] Twelfth Georgia Regiment detached.
[b] Walker's brigade detached.
[c] Thomas' brigade detached.
[d] Not reported.

*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey, C. S. Army, commanding, January* 10, 1864; *headquarters Richmond, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Prisoners of war. | | Pieces of artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | Officers. | Men. | |
| General staff | 9 | ..... | ..... | 9 | 11 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Richmond Defenses | 81 | 1,322 | 1,454 | 1,697 | 1,980 | 2 | 42 | ..... |
| Hunton's brigade | 107 | 1,095 | 1,082 | 1,394 | 2,542 | 43 | 347 | ..... |
| Chaffin's Bluff | 21 | 313 | 398 | 449 | 516 | ..... | ..... | 18 |
| Drewry's Bluff | 17 | 341 | 405 | 446 | 494 | ..... | ..... | 12 |
| Maryland Line | 22 | 254 | 254 | 316 | 504 | 4 | 123 | ..... |
| Total | 248 | 3,325 | 3,593 | 4,302 | 6,036 | 49 | 512 | 30 |
| Hunton's command: | | | | | | | | |
| 3d Virginia Cavalry. Company B. Holcombe Legion Cavalry | 38 | 435 | 430 | 597 | 1,057 | 3 | 4 | ..... |
| 42d Virginia Battalion Cavalry 1st Maryland Cavalry | 17 | 275 | 275 | 330 | 595 | 4 | 100 | ..... |
| Total cavalry | 55 | 710 | 705 | 927 | 1,652 | 7 | 104 | ..... |
| Artillery Reserve, &c.: | | | | | | | | |
| Cooper's battery | 5 | 101 | 101 | 116 | 118 | ..... | ..... | 4 |
| Baltimore Artillery | 4 | 71 | 71 | 82 | 98 | 1 | 8 | 3 |
| Richmond Defenses | 8 | 268 | 288 | 314 | 360 | .... | ..... | 14 |
| Chaffin's Farm | 12 | 244 | 243 | 294 | 314 | ..... | 1 | 10 |
| Total | 29 | 684 | 708 | 806 | 890 | 1 | 9 | 31 |
| Grand total | 341 | 4,719 | 5,001 | 6,044 | 8,589 | 57 | 625 | 61 |

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 11, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: I beg leave to apologize to Your Excellency for troubling you with subjects which properly ought not to come under your notice, but sometimes I find it impossible to accomplish what is desirable without invoking the aid of all in authority, even including yourself.

The present is a subject of great importance in our crying necessity for food, and the evil may extend further than has been brought to my knowledge, a d may exist on distant lines of communication. Recently we have found that the amount of meat invoiced to the army at Richmond is not received here. The practice is at every depot where provisions are received for the commissary to whom they are consigned to be present on the arrival of the train with a guard to take charge of them and see that they correspond with the invoices. A statement is inclosed of the deficiencies discovered, which, in the aggregate, amount to 5,000 pounds of bacon. At our present rate of issue this is equal to 20,000 rations, and is intolerable. The meat is loaded on the cars in Richmond in pieces, each piece counted, and the whole number and weight given in the invoice and railroad manifest. Whether the railroad agent verifies the accuracy of the invoice on reception I do not know. I understand that the railroad is not responsible for the safety of the provisions, but all is

conveyed at Government risk, nor does it provide locks or fastenings for the cars.

I have never known of such an arrangement before. All the Government agents along the road have been put on the alert, but the loss is increasing. If the railroad agents will take no care of the safety of the Government freight, Government agents had better be sent with each train of provisions.

Last year I recollect there was some depredation of subsistence stores on the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad, and as well as I remember it was ascertained to have been committed by some of the railroad employés between Hanover Junction and Fredericksburg. Upon their dismissal the depredations ceased. But if there is so great a loss sustained in the transportation of meat from Richmond to Orange, I have feared it might exist on the roads south of Richmond, and it was on this account, as well as in the hope of having that referred to corrected, that I have ventured to bring the matter to the notice of Your Excellency.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[First indorsement.]

Commissary-General of Subsistence, for consideration and remarks.

J. D.

[Second indorsement.]

OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
*March* 6, 1864.

This subject has long been observed and efforts to correct it been made. A list of deficiencies in amounts at this single post for one year is presented. From the beginning of the war to the present constant representations and suggestions have been made in respect to transportation. These evils have been aggravating.

For the last sixteen or eighteen months they have been threatening fatal results, which have received every attention possible from this bureau. The War Department has been duly informed of what is to be expected. Troops in Virginia depend on corn from Georgia for bread. For months we have been living from hand to mouth, and if the last reserve of flour at Lynchburg had not been used for the army destitution must have ensued. That condition is now impending, with no apparent remedy. Over 100,000 bushels of corn demand transportation; not over one-third of what is already on the road has arrived. Unless all passenger trains are stopped the consequences may be fatal. In addition, transportation for bacon is needed from Georgia.

I again renew a suggestion repeatedly made, that nothing should be allowed as a sufficient reason to delay an immediate accumulation of supplies of food at this point. And I again repeat that conscript officers should be prohibited from breaking in on the organization of the employés of this bureau, which is, as far as possible, endeavoring to conform to the requirements of law.

Respectfully returned to His Excellency the President.

L. B. NORTHROP,
*Commissary-General of Subsistence.*

[Third indorsement.]

MARCH 8, 1864.

AIDE-DE-CAMP:

Write to General Lee and refer to General Bragg for his inquiry and attention.

J. D.

[Fourth indorsement.]

MARCH 8, 1864.

Wrote to General Lee and inclosed copy of Colonel Northrop's indorsement, and mentioned above reference.

WM. PRESTON JOHNSTON,
*Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

This matter, known to be a very important one, full of fraud, will receive every attention. A good railroad expert is necessary. Colonel Wadley is the only one known to me.

B. BRAGG.

[Sixth indorsement.]

SECRETARY OF WAR:

It may be practicable to employ Mr. Wadley as an agent.

J. D.

[Seventh indorsement.]

I fear Colonel Wadley's services are not now attainable, but retain for inquiry.

J. A. S.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

*Deficiencies in meat sent from Richmond, Va.*

| Date. | Invoiced and received. | Pieces. | Weight. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Pounds.* |
| December 30 | Invoiced | 919 | 36,725 |
| | Received | 898 | 36,096 |
| | Short | 21 | 629 |
| January 2 | Invoiced | 495 | 20,700 |
| | Received | 473 | 19,736 |
| | Short | 22 | 964 |
| January 6 | Invoiced | 503 | 2,592 |
| | Received | 470 | 1,981 |
| | Short | 33 | 1,611 |

*From Staunton, salt pork.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| January 6 | Invoiced | 1,158 | 16,570 |
| | Received | 1,149 | 15,731 |
| | Short | 9 | 839 |

*From Richmond.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Flour, January 8: | | |
| Invoiced | barrels.. | 500 |
| Received | do.... | 498 |
| Short | | 2 |
| January 10: Invoiced 42 pieces meat; short in one car-load, 1,057 pounds | | 1,057 |
| Total pounds | | 5,000 |

[Inclosure No. 2.]

*Report of supplies deficient under invoices from various points during the year* 1863.

| Points received from. | Pork, barrels. | Beef, pounds. | Bacon, pounds. | Beef-tongue, pieces. | Lard, pounds. | Pease, bushels. | Potatoes, pounds. | Rice, pounds. | Coffee, pounds. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| First quarter: | | | | | | | | | |
| Danville, Va | | | | | | | | | 82 |
| Charlotte, N. C | 70 | | 1,127 | | | | | | |
| Salem, Va | | 419 | | | | | | | |
| Salisbury, N. C | | | 2,425 | | | | | | |
| Atlanta, Ga | | | 54,110 | | | | | | |
| Amount first quarter | 70 | 419 | 57,662 | | | | | | 82 |
| Second quarter: | | | | | | | | | |
| Atlanta, Ga | | 90 | 99,530 | | 773 | | | | |
| Danville, Va | | | 184 | | | | | 3,535 | |
| Hickory Tavern, N. C | | | 1,587 | | | | | | |
| Weldon, N. C | | | 1,541 | | | | | | |
| Warrenton, N. C | | | 1,135 | | 633 | | | | |
| Salisbury, N. C | | | 4,315 | | | | | | |
| Raleigh, N. C | | | 6,047 | | 236 | 60 | | | |
| Charlotte, N. C | | | 3,090 | | | | | 634 | |
| Burkeville, Va | | | 215 | | 188 | | | | |
| Bristol, Tenn | | | 1,061 | | | | | | |
| Petersburg, Va | | | 5,300 | | | | | | |
| Salem, Va | | 5,239 | 2,173 | | | | | | |
| Amount second quarter | | 5,329 | 126,178 | | 1,830 | 60 | | 4,169 | |
| Third quarter: | | | | | | | | | |
| Atlanta, Ga | | 4,565 | 81,272 | 534 | | | | | |
| Charlotte, N. C | | | 2,915 | | | 7 | | | |
| Macon, Ga | | | 4,542 | | | | | | |
| Abingdon, Va | | | | | | | 184 | | |
| Millen, Ga | | | 1,415 | | | | | | |
| Warrenton, N. C | | | 2,122 | | | | | | |
| Columbus, Ga | | | 4,909 | | | 913 | | | |
| Weldon, N. C | | | 4,271 | | | | | | |
| Hickory Tavern, N. C | | | 2,364 | | | | | | |
| Charleston, S. C | | | 1,156 | | | | | | 193 |
| Raleigh, N. C | | | 8,842 | | | | | | |
| Salisbury, N. C | | | 6,154 | | | | 17 | | |
| Wilmington, N. C | 1 | | 13,929 | | | | | | |
| Amount third quarter | 1 | 4,565 | 133,891 | 534 | | 920 | 201 | | 193 |
| Fourth quarter: | | | | | | | | | |
| Columbus, Ga | | | | | | 4,278 | | | |
| Atlanta, Ga | | | 289,659 | | | | | | |
| Charlotte, N. C | | | 2,767 | | | | 1,439 | | |
| Raleigh, N. C | | 1,278 | | | | | | | |
| Petersburg, Va | | | | | | | 2,895 | | |
| Salisbury, N. C | | | | | | | 128 | 2,613 | |
| Hickory Tavern, N. C | | 1,952 | 2,205 | | 104 | | 1,730 | | |
| Goldsborough, N. C | | | 5,485 | | | | | | |
| Amount fourth quarter | | 3,230 | 300,116 | | 104 | 4,278 | 6,192 | 2,613 | |
| Amount fourth quarter | | 3,230 | 300,116 | | 104 | 4,278 | 6,192 | 2,613 | |
| Amount third quarter | 1 | 4,565 | 133,891 | 534 | | 920 | 201 | | 193 |
| Amount second quarter | | 5,329 | 126,178 | | 1,830 | 60 | | 4,169 | |
| Amount first quarter | 70 | 419 | 57,662 | | | | | | 82 |
| Total during 1863 | 71 | 13,543 | 617,847 | 534 | 1,934 | 5,258 | 6,393 | 6,782 | 275 |

*Report of supplies deficient under invoices, &c.*—Continued.

| Points received from. | Sugar, pounds. | Candles, pounds. | Tallow, pounds. | Soap, pounds. | Soda-ash, pounds. | Dried fruit, pounds. | Molasses, gallons. | Whisky, gallons. | Corn, bushels. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **First quarter:** | | | | | | | | | |
| Charlotte, N. C. | 382 | | | | | | | | |
| Mobile, Ala. | | | | 673 | | | | | |
| Salem, Va | | | 321 | | | | | | |
| Lake City, Va | | | | | 4,851 | | | | |
| Amount first quarter | 382 | | 321 | 673 | 4,851 | | | | |
| **Second quarter:** | | | | | | | | | |
| Atlanta, Ga | 9,045 | | | | | | | | |
| Hickory Tavern, N. C. | | | | | | 164 | | | |
| Salisbury, N. C. | | | | 530 | | 426 | | | |
| Raleigh, N. C. | | | | | | 167 | 56 | | |
| Charlotte, N. C. | 5,829 | | | | | | | | |
| Burkeville, Va. | | | | 35 | | | | | |
| Amount second quarter | 14,874 | | | 565 | | 757 | 56 | | |
| **Third quarter:** | | | | | | | | | |
| Atlanta, Ga | 3,934 | 50 | | | | 712 | | | |
| Mobile, Ala. | 41,866 | | | | | | 2,143 | | |
| Warrenton, N. C | | | | 12 | | | | | |
| Columbus, Ga. | | | | | | | | 281 | 31,892 |
| Raleigh, N. C | 15,930 | | | | | 101 | | | |
| Salisbury, N. C. | | | | 186 | | 35 | | | |
| Amount third quarter | 61,730 | 50 | | 198 | | 848 | 2,143 | 281 | 31,892 |
| **Fourth quarter:** | | | | | | | | | |
| Columbus, Ga. | | | | | | | | | 24,573 |
| Atlanta, Ga | | 77 | | | | 135 | | | |
| Raleigh, N. C | 2,243 | | | | | 39 | 203 | | |
| Mobile, Ala. | 44,024 | | | | | | 1,040 | | |
| Hickory Tavern, N. C. | | | 34 | | | | | | |
| Amount fourth quarter | 46,267 | 77 | 34 | | | 174 | 1,243 | | 24,573 |
| Amount fourth quarter | 46,267 | 77 | 34 | | | 174 | 1,243 | | 24,573 |
| Amount third quarter | 61,730 | 50 | | 198 | | 848 | 2,143 | 281 | 31,892 |
| Amount second quarter | 14,874 | | | 565 | | 757 | 56 | | |
| Amount first quarter | 382 | | 321 | 673 | 4,851 | | | | |
| Total during 1863 | 123,253 | 127 | 355 | 1,436 | 4,851 | 1,779 | 3,442 | 281 | 56,465 |

The loss in bacon from Atlanta has been specially heavy by the western route, and may have occurred under the difficulties in Tennessee, of which I have no report.

Large losses have occurred in sugar and molasses for want of transportation, large quantities having been stored on the line to prevent exposure and pillage.

A heavy deficiency is shown in corn from Columbus, Ga. I am satisfied, by close investigation, that a large portion of it has been diverted to the Quartermaster's Department of this city by the quartermasters on the line, under the presumption that all corn belonged to that department.

Respectfully submitted.

T. H. CLAIBORNE,
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 11, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

Mr. PRESIDENT: I inclose a dispatch* received from General Early. I recommend that an intelligent scout be sent to Yorktown to verify the report of the landing of provisions, &c., and that a constant watch be kept in that quarter. There may be some foundation for the report, or it may have originated in General Butler's proposition for volunteers to liberate the prisoners in Richmond. I have recommended that these prisoners be all sent far into the interior. I have two brigades of cavalry in Caroline, under General Hampton, who will be in position to strike such an expedition in flank, and can send two brigades of infantry within reach of Richmond if there is any truth in the report.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS VALLEY DISTRICT,
*January* 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: During the time that I have been in the valley I have had ample opportunity of judging of the efficiency and usefulness of the many irregular bodies of troops which occupy this country and known as partisans, &c., and am prompted by no other feeling than a desire to serve my country to inform you that they are a nuisance and an evil to the service. Without discipline, order, or organization, they roam broadcast over the country, a band of thieves, stealing, pillaging, plundering, and doing every manner of mischief and crime. They are a terror to the citizens and an injury to the cause. They never fight; can't be made to fight. Their leaders are generally brave, but few of the men are good soldiers, and have engaged in this business for the sake of gain. The effect upon the service is bad, and I think, if possible, it should be corrected. It is bad because:

First. It keeps men out of the service whose bayonet or saber should be counted on the field of battle when the life or death of our country is the issue.

Second. They cause great dissatisfaction in the ranks from the fact that these irregular troops are allowed so much latitude, so many privileges. They sleep in houses and turn out in the cold only when it is announced by their chief that they are to go upon a plundering expedition.

Third. It renders other troops dissatisfied; hence encourages desertion.

It is almost impossible for one to manage the different companies of my brigade that are from Loudoun, Fauquier, Fairfax, &c., the region occupied by Mosby. They see these men living at their ease and enjoying the comforts of home, allowed to possess all that they capture, and their duties mere pastime pleasures compared with their own arduous ones; and it is a natural consequence in the nature of man that he should become dissatisfied under these circumstances. Patriotism fails in a long and tedious war like this to

* Not found.

sustain the ponderous burdens which bear heavily and cruelly upon the heart and soul of man. Men are actuated by selfish motives, and those who were first to volunteer in the beginning are now the most eager in the search for a "soft place." This is melancholy, but it is nevertheless true, and it can only be, in my opinion, remedied by placing all men on the same footing who are of the same rank. If it is necessary for troops to operate within the lines of the enemy, then require the commanding officer to keep them in an organized condition, to rendezvous within our lines, and move upon the enemy when opportunity is offered.

Major Mosby is of inestimable service to the Yankee army in keeping their men from straggling. He is a gallant officer, and is one that I have great respect for; yet the interest I feel in my own command and the good of the service coerces me to bring this matter before you, in order that this partisan system, which I think is a bad one, may be corrected. Major-General Early can give useful information concerning the evils of these organizations. If he cannot, Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee certainly can, from his experience with them in the valley within the last few weeks.

I am, general, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS L. ROSSER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 18, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Major Mosby's command is the only efficient band of rangers I know of, and he usually operates with only one-fourth of his nominal strength. Such organizations, as a rule, are detrimental to the best interests of the army at large.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 22, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the War Department.

As far as my knowledge and experience extends, there is much truth in the statement of General Rosser. I recommend that the law authorizing these partisan corps be abolished. The evils resulting from their organization more than counterbalance the good they accomplish.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Third indorsement.]

JANUARY 30, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Hon. Mr. Miles, chairman of Military Committee.

Please examine and return the papers to the Department.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
*Assistant Secretary of War.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*February* 14, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Assistant Secretary of War.

The House has just passed the bill abolishing partisan rangers, as drafted by Mr. Seddon, at my request.

WM. PORCHER MILES.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Petersburg, Va., January* 12, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I have the honor to state that, in accordance with our understanding in a conversation a few days since, I have ordered three companies of Wheeler's battalion from Kinston to Garysburg; at that point there are already two companies unattached Virginia troops. These five companies, together with two companies from the Seventh Confederate Cavalry (which has twelve companies) and a light battery (Graham's), not attached, will give eight companies for the new regiment which I propose.* Colonel Hinton, commanding the Northeastern State forces, and Colonel Griffin, of the Sixty-second Georgia, in command at Franklin, both assured me that there were two companies of State troops under Lieutenant-Colonel Wynn (mounted) [who] would gladly be assigned and incorporated in this command. This force of mounted men will within a week's time be assembled at Franklin. I shall assign them to the command of Major Dearing, and ask that he may be ordered to take command of these troops, with the temporary rank of colonel. He is a young officer of daring and coolness combined, the very man for the service upon which he is going, a good disciplinarian, and at the same time generally beloved by his men. I am not saying too much in his absence in assuring you that Lieutenant-General Longstreet would strongly indorse his claims to promotion had he the opportunity.

One of the principal purposes in concentrating a command at the point above named under an efficient and trustworthy officer is that I have in contemplation an expedition to the counties of Gates, Pasquotank, and Perquimans, for the purpose of bringing out the bacon and provisions so very necessary for us at this present time. If the enemy do not make an offensive movement in North Carolina before I have had time to accomplish this I will advance a force toward Suffolk, so as to attract attention and collect a wagon train at Franklin to accompany the expedition. They can also, if successful, bring out conscripts. I hope this plan will meet with your approbation. I shall conduct it with as much secrecy as possible. In the mean time, should the enemy make a movement on us either at Kinston or the railroad, I can order this cavalry to the point most needed.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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*See Ransom to Pickett, December 30, 1863, Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 895.

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 13, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Let the arrangement proposed by General Pickett be authorized, and Major Dearing be assigned, with temporary rank of colonel, to the command. It would be better, and General Pickett is advised, if it be practicable, to substitute two unassigned North Carolina companies, if to be found, instead of the two Virginia companies.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, January* 12, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: The Department is probably not aware that while the defensive works for this place have been very greatly increased and strengthened the garrison remains the same as when General French was in command. The manner in which the enemy operates and the vast resources at his command have directed his attention to points heretofore either considered as secure from natural causes or as not of sufficient importance either to the attack or defense. The experience of Charleston shows that no reliance can be placed on natural obstacles to the enemy's progress. I have therefore for several months been engaged in fortifying the important position of Smith's Island, lying between the two entrances of the Cape Fear. The object is to prevent the enemy, who might by a *coup de main*, landing at a smooth time, take possession of the points opposite Caswell and Fort Fisher, and, thus securing a chance for boats at night, get in guns and stores with which to close the harbor virtually for all our purposes. A glance at the map will show the effect of the possession of the island by the enemy. I send you also a sketch, which will serve to explain the position and its features.

Your attention has previously been called to the danger of leaving Lockwood's Folly and Shallotte to the westward exposed from want of force to be taken as a base. The occupation of Smith's Island is an additional and most urgent reason for an increase of the permanent garrison here. And it is to ask for such an increase that I now write. I want only to be reasonably secure against the fatal consequences of the enemy's occupying positions which must result in the closing of the harbor, unless he can be checked in time. It is true that the occupation of Morris Island has not yet taken Charleston, and probably will not, but it has closed that harbor to us. In our present condition this is what I want to prevent here, and I want to leave nothing to chance. Let me have a brigade here to defend the west of the river and hold this island. The troops I now have are indispensable on the equally important lines of the east and for the support of Fort Fisher. I have not nearly enough for all. If a brigade cannot be detached from any army for this purpose permanently, let one be sent here temporarily for the winter, and in the mean time let a force be in process of organization from reduced regiments, detached regiments, and artillery companies, and it and the new levies to be sent here as fast as organized, and put under the command of the excellent officers at the different forts. Only let every-

thing be made secure now. To me the great object here, to which all others are secondary, is to keep this port open, and to be sure of this I wish to neglect nothing. It must be recollected that within the past year to defend this place have been erected the powerful works, Forts Campbell, Pender, Holmes, the lines of Smith's Island, besides numerous batteries, great additions to Forts Caswell and Fisher and the advanced works of the latter. Extensive work, considered indispensable, is still in progress, under great difficulties in the way of labor and material. It is not, I think, necessary for me to demonstrate the effect or importance of the different positions occupied or specially to discuss the necessity of the various works erected or in progress, further than to indicate their general relation to the main object, the preservation of the harbor. For this I send herewith the sketch* of Smith's Island; the Department has none so much in detail. By comparing it with a coast-survey map of the mouth of the Cape Fear the relation of the island to Caswell and Fisher will be seen at once. I may make one remark pertinent to the permanent occupation of the island by a strong garrison, that in all northerly weather, at which time the beach from Fort Holmes to the cape is smooth and so far favorable to the enemy, it is with great difficulty we are able to keep up communication and supplies. Please show the sketch to the President and call his attention to this letter, especially to the matter of increase of the permanent garrison and dispatch of some of the troops now in winter quarters to this place for its present security.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 13, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President, with a map. Kemper's brigade was ordered to re-enforce General Whiting some days since.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 13, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:*

MR. PRESIDENT: I have the honor to call your attention to some matters affecting the execution of the conscript law in the case of those who have recently been made liable to it, as well as of others.

There is a strong disposition manifested by the men to enlist in commands serving near their homes. This has been the case in several States, but I refer particularly to Western Virginia. I am informed that this disposition is encouraged by the officers, who are naturally desirous to increase their forces. The evils of the system have already been experienced. Men who so enlist conceive that they have a kind of right to serve in certain localities, and are averse to being transferred to others. This was illustrated by the numerous

* To appear in Atlas.

desertions that took place last summer from the commands of General Jenkins, Colonel Wharton, and Lieutenant-Colonel Clarke when they were brought to this army. But another and greater objection arises from the condition of the commands in Western Virginia. I regret to say that, from all I can learn, those which would probably be most resorted to by such conscripts in that country as avail themselves of the right to volunteer are not as efficient as they should be, and that the men who may go into them will be to a great extent lost to the general service without a thorough reorganization of these forces. I refer particularly to the commands of General Imboden, Col. W. L. Jackson, and Maj. Gen. Sam. Jones.

My own opportunities of observation have not impressed me favorably with regard to the discipline and efficiency of General Imboden's troops, and the accounts I receive represent the others, with few exceptions, to be no better.

General Early in a recent letter states that his operations were impeded, and in a measure arrested by his inability to get service from General Imboden's men. He says he could get no information about the enemy because he could make no reconnaissances with those troops. I have been disappointed in my expectations of the services of General Sam. Jones' command also. I think a reorganization of these troops necessary, and a change of commanders desirable.

The department requires a man of judgment and energy, whose discretion can be depended upon without always awaiting orders. The importance of this command will be augmented in view of the occupation by the enemy of East Tennessee, threatening Southwest Virginia, and demanding able, intelligent, and vigorous management on our part. We can afford to lose nothing by want of discipline and efficiency among the troops.

In the mean time, in view of the facts I have alluded to, I think it desirable that no more men should be permitted to enter the organizations I have mentioned than it is impossible to prevent, as I consider that those who do enlist in them will be taken from the efficient strength of the army in a great measure.

I am told that the repeal of the substitute law will bring in about 1,400 men from the counties of Rockingham and Augusta, besides large numbers from the vicinity of Lynchburg. The former will probably elect to volunteer in Imboden's and the others in Jackson's and Jones' commands.

If nothing more can be done, I earnestly recommend that none be permitted so to enlist beyond the number required to fill up existing organizations in those commands. No increase of them from this source should be allowed, but all the men that can be obtained should be used to fill up the depleted regiments of this army.

What I have said of Virginia is equally applicable to other States. The disposition to enlist in organizations somewhat local in their nature and remote from the principal theater of hostilities should be checked, and the recruits thrown as far as possible into the more important and active armies, which need them most. I respectfully suggest that the enrolling officers be ordered to see that none volunteer in such commands as I have mentioned beyond the legal complement and that no new companies be formed.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 13, 1864.

Col. J. S. PRESTON,
*Superintendent Bureau of Conscription, Richmond, Va.:*

COLONEL: I consider it very important to use every exertion to strengthen the armies in the field at once by the regular operation of the conscript law, and by collecting all made liable to military duty by the repeal of the substitute law.

Very few conscripts are being received in this army at present. I fear that the privilege of volunteering is abused. In the State of South Carolina I am informed that a single company, called the Rutledge Cavalry, was increased by volunteering beyond its complement until it was divided into two and afterward four companies. The regiments from that State in this army are much reduced, and I think that all men who have gone into organizations forbidden by law and orders, and all who are in excess of the complement of old companies, should be sent to the armies in the field. In the State of North Carolina a similar state of things is said to exist, men volunteering in the heavy batteries at Wilmington and in cavalry companies upon the coast. Upon the vigilant and strict execution of the conscript law depends in a great measure the issue of the coming campaign, and no effort should be spared to bring out the recruits at once, that they may be prepared by the opening of the spring. If you desire it, I can send you at present some officers from this army, to aid the enrolling officers in the different States either to collect conscripts generally or those intended particularly for this army, which needs them very much.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 13, 1864.

Col. L. B. NORTHROP,
*Commissary-General, Richmond, Va.:*

COLONEL: Your letter of the 10th instant has been received. I am unable to coincide in your view of the law. It is plain to my mind that Congress intended that the power of impressment given to commanders of armies in the field should depend upon emergencies in fact growing out of their situation, and not difficulties created by laws or orders of the Department. It was never intended as a permanent or continuous means of procuring supplies. Such a construction would do away with the general Commissary Department, except so far as it might be occupied in collecting reserves. I think that department was organized for the general supply of the Army, and not merely to make up such deficiencies as the Army itself by the exertions of its officers could not meet. It is true the staff officers of an army in the field may buy, or in cases of exigency impress under the law, but their regular source of supply is the general Commissary Department. A different construction would make it necessary for every army to take care of itself. There would be no uniformity of prices, officers would be brought in competition with each other, and injury to the people and to the armies themselves would necessarily ensue. It certainly has not been the view hitherto taken of the

duties of your department, as indicated by its action. The law is very plain in its requirements that impressment by a general commanding an army in the field shall be made by officers of his army alone, and not by the general agents and officers of the Department, as you propose. This appears from the nature of the certificates required to be given by section 2 of the law and by the second section of paragraph 2 of General Orders, 37. This fact substantiates my view that the power is intended only to meet an emergency in fact, and not for the continuous supply of the Army; otherwise, it would not exclude those officers especially charged with the business of the general subsistence of troops. The third section of the law confirms my opinion of the nature of the exigency, for it provides for a case where the emergency is so great as to prevent for the time an appraisement by the impressing officer, and turns over the subsequent adjustment of cases so arising to the chief of the Department and his agents. The emergency that now exists, so far as it proceeds from the operations of General Orders, 144, is entirely within the power of the Department, and while that order remains unrevoked it would operate against impressments by my authority just as much as against those of your agents. I repeat that the emergency contemplated by the law is one that proceeds from the situation of the army preventing free access to its regular and legitimate source of supplies—the stores of the Commissary Department.

I foresee nothing but evil and confusion if the armies are told to take care of themselves. The supplies must be obtained by a general system under a common control, so that there may be uniformity, and the burden made to fall equally upon all. Distress, dissatisfaction, and concealment of stores must result from any other system.

I would suggest some modification in the provision forbidding the impressment of supplies intended for consumption. The causes you allude to have made our people lay by stores for much longer periods than usual. The necessities of the army render it necessary that those at home should subsist, as far as practicable, upon those articles which cannot be so well used by the troops in the field, and these facts should be considered in determining what is necessary for home consumption.

In speaking of ordering your agents, I, of course, had in mind the fact that their services were tendered by you; but, as I have said, I am not at liberty to use the impressing power when an emergency makes it lawful for me to do so, except through the agency of the officers designated by section 2, who must belong to the army under my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS HAMPTON'S DIVISION,
*January* 13, 1864.

Major MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I beg to call the attention of the major-general commanding to the very heavy duty entailed on the two brigades at present in keeping up the picket-line. The pickets from Gordon's brigade have now to travel 40 miles to their posts. Forage has to be carried to their posts, as none can be obtained near them, and the mere

travel is sufficient to prevent any improvement in the horses, if not to break them down. I would respectfully recommend that my pickets may be relieved by infantry as low down the river as Ely's Ford. A small force of infantry can guard the upper fords effectually, and the relief of my pickets would not only tend greatly to the improvement in the condition of my horses, but would leave at my disposal a much larger force to meet any incursion of the enemy.

I beg to refer to the report of General Gordon on this subject, and I am, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 18, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, approved.

Infantry can be much more easily provided for than cavalry, and can, at the lower fords, draw their supplies from Hamilton's Crossing, which will be no greater distance than the extreme right of our present infantry line from Orange Court-House.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *January* 22, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

I very much regret that the picket duty comes so heavy on the cavalry, and I wish I could relieve them. Small infantry pickets, as proposed, could be easily cut off. Nothing less than two brigades would be safe such a distance from support. The only relief I can suggest is to use vedettes on the river, with the reserve camp at Chancellorsville, or other more convenient point to which forage could be transported.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Hanover Junction, January* 14, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I respectfully request that a special order be issued constituting the battalion of Maryland cavalry, Lieut. Col. R. Brown commanding, under the name of First Maryland Cavalry; the battalion of Maryland infantry, Lieut. Col. J. R. Herbert commanding, under the name of Second Maryland Infantry, and battery of artillery, Capt. W. H. Griffin commanding, under the name of Second Maryland Artillery, with such other companies, battalions, and regiments as may be hereafter raised or assigned to it, "The Maryland Line," under my command, in accordance with General Orders, No. 8, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, 1862, and Special Orders, No. 269, paragraph XIV, headquarters Army of Northern Virginia. I desire this for the purpose of fixing the names of the battalions and companies of this command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
*January* 16, 1864.

Approved and respectfully forwarded.

ARNOLD ELZEY,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

JANUARY 16, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

I see no objection to the proposed order. If you do, report for consideration; if not, it may be issued.

JAS. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 269. } *October* 31, 1863.

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XIV. The troops of the "Maryland Line," consisting of First Battalion of Infantry, Captain Crane commanding; battalion of cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Brown commanding, and Baltimore Light Artillery, Captain Griffin, in pursuance of orders from the War Department, are assigned to the command of Col. Bradley T. Johnson, who will proceed with these troops to Hanover Junction.

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By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Petersburg, Va., January* 14, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjt. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of to-day, asking about the whereabouts of Kemper's brigade. I asked for more troops for North Carolina in my letter of 6th instant, which you answered by telegraph (copy of which I send).* I desired them for a certain point—Goldsborough. Your answer left it discretionary with me where to send them. I communicated with General Whiting in regard to them. I have received no reply either by telegram or letter from him. The brigade was needed at Goldsborough for reasons stated in my letter of 6th instant. Colonel Mayo, commanding the brigade, was directed to report to General Whiting upon his arrival at Goldsborough. Also I wrote General Whiting I would not only co-operate, but would, if he was attacked, send all my troops to his support. The point where he thinks he is threatened from is New Berne, and, if so, Kinston must be held. The force at Goldsborough can be thrown to Kinston or Wilmington as we choose. Do you wish the brigade sent

* See Cooper to Pickett, January 8, p. 1072.

to Wilmington? If so, send the order. I did not so understand it, nor can I conceive of the necessity. Whiting has not so communicated to me. It left Weldon on the 12th, the day mentioned in your telegram, the train having broken down en route for Weldon from this city. To make assurance doubly sure, I send a staff officer to General Whiting by to-night's train. I suppose I will by this means get a certified reply.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Early, with his staff, will proceed to Staunton and resume his command of the Valley District. The post quartermaster will furnish transportation.

By order of General Lee:

C. S. VENABLE,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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PETERSBURG, *January* 15, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

The following telegrams have been received from General Whiting:

WILMINGTON, *January* 14, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT:

The emergency is, I want troops; must have them. If you send Kemper I will see that you get others. Telegraph the War Department what I want. If they agree to the movement you must get troops from Virginia. I will write you to-morrow. Cipher goes straight from beginning. Would rather you would keep Kemper where he is and send me Clingman, if possible.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

This was sent in cipher:

WILMINGTON, *January* 15, 1864.

General PICKETT:

Dispatch received. Have not yet called on Terry. Let War Department know my wishes and see what they say. Wrote you this morning.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

Shall I send Clingman and keep Kemper at Goldsborough, as Whiting asks? If so, I will want some other troops here. Kemper's brigade is ready to move when Whiting calls for it. One of Clingman's regiments is on Blackwater. I must have a force there, as I am threatened with a raid from direction of Suffolk.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., January* 16, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: The President has received your letter of the 13th instant, and desires me to say in reply that he will do all in his power

to carry out your views in reference to the proper distribution of conscripts. Some change in the law may be necessary, but whatever can be accomplished by regulation will be done at once.

His Excellency will be glad to have your opinion fully upon the subject of the reorganization of the troops in Western Virginia, and your assistance in selecting a commander for them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. C. LEE,
*Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.*

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[JANUARY 16, 1864.—For Lee to Longstreet, see Vol. XXXII, Part II, p. 566.]

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., January* 16, 1864.

General G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

Send Kemper's brigade to Wilmington, or such other point as General Whiting may indicate.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF WESTERN VA. AND EAST TENNESSEE,
*Dublin, January* 17, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: On the 6th of September last, under instructions from the War Department, I assumed command of that portion of Southwestern Virginia embraced in the Department of East Tennessee and all the forces east of Knoxville belonging to that department, and continued to exercise command in that department until, in the course of military operations, Lieutenant-General Longstreet came with his command east of Knoxville. Whilst I was exercising that command the former commander of the department, Major-General Buckner, ordered a number of the officers of the Department of East Tennessee to report to me, among them the military court, medical director, and inspector-general of cavalry of his department. They did so, and have been, and are now, acting under my orders. The Secretary of War has informed me that Lieutenant-General Longstreet having come within the Department of East Tennessee, as a matter of course, commands that department by virtue of his superior rank. But no order having been issued relieving me from the command, all the departmental business is still referred to me. If Lieutenant-General Longstreet is in command of the Department of East Tennessee, I respectfully ask that it may be so announced in orders, and that all officers of that department who have reported to me be ordered to report to Lieutenant-General Longstreet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, January* 17, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding, &c., Orange Court-House*

I was not here when your letter of the 5th instant arrived or I should have answered it sooner.

Some time between the 23d and 29th of December last I ordered my chief commissary to turn over to Major Cloyd, chief purchasing agent for this district, 1,500 beef-cattle to be sent to your army. On the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant 400 beeves were ordered to be turned over for the use of your army. Day before yesterday I ordered the product of 700 beeves, salted, to be forwarded to your commissary. There will be some delay in forwarding the salted beef, because of the want of barrels in which to pack it. It shall be forwarded with as little delay as possible. I have been obliged to resort to somewhat arbitrary acts to accumulate supplies for my own command, and which I am now forwarding to you. How I am to replace them is more than I know at present. I have given every facility in my power to Major Eggleston to enable him to forward beef-cattle to you, detailing from my own command, when I could not well spare them, the men he called for to drive the cattle.

There is but little cattle in this part of the country to be procured. The chief purchasing agent in this district, Major Cloyd, is a practical grazier of large experience and great energy, who, I am sure, will procure all the subsistence that can be procured in the district. I have sent a regiment of cavalry within the enemy's lines to harass them, and, if practicable, bring out beef-cattle. When last heard from it was at Wayne Court-House, but the weather has been and is now so unfavorable that I am afraid it will not accomplish much.

The railroad bridge over the Holston at Zollicoffer is completed, and I am in daily expectation of hearing that the bridge over the Watauga at Carter's Depot is completed. When that is done railroad communication will, as I understand, be opened with Lieutenant-General Longstreet. I do not know what supplies you can procure from that section of country. I believe if the purchasing agents are active and energetic and honest they can procure more than supplies enough for Lieutenant-General Longstreet's command. I suspect, however, that no more than enough for his command will be secured.

I will inform you as soon as railroad communication with Longstreet is opened.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, January* 17, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR. You are aware of the circumstances under which, early in September last, I carried a portion of the troops of my department into East Tennessee. It was to meet a pressing emergency, caused by the withdrawal of Major-General Buckner's command from that

section of country, and to endeavor to check the advance of General Burnside through East Tennessee into Southwest Virginia. General Burnside was checked, and I pushed my troops farther into East Tennessee and held that portion of country until, in the course of military operations, Lieutenant-General Longstreet came with his command east of Knoxville. The troops that I carried into East Tennessee are very essential to the defense of this department, and I never for a moment supposed that by moving them temporarily into that section of the country I thereby lost the command of them.

Lieutenant-General Longstreet has informed me, much to my surprise, that by authority, as he conceives, of the President he commands that portion of my troops that he found in East Tennessee. If those troops have been placed under his command the order has never been communicated to me. I respectfully and most earnestly ask that all the troops I carried from this department to that be restored to my command. I shall be glad to use them, as I have heretofore done, to give all the aid in my power to the commander of the Department of East Tennessee, but if I am expected to protect this section of country and the important line of railroad passing through it I must have control of all my troops.

I may remind you that since I was assigned to the command of this department the Twenty-ninth, Fiftieth, Fifty-fourth, and Sixty-third Regiments Virginia Infantry, all of them large regiments, and all of Brigadier-General Marshall's command, including seven field batteries, have been taken from me, or rather from this department. After so heavy a draft on it I cannot think the War Department wishes to take from it the troops that I carried into East Tennessee to meet a temporary and pressing emergency.

May I ask an early answer to this?

With great respect, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL The want of shoes and blankets in this army continues to cause much suffering and to impair its efficiency. In one regiment, I am informed, there are only 50 men with serviceable shoes, and a brigade that recently went on picket was compelled to leave several hundred men in camp who were unable to bear the exposure of duty, being destitute of shoes and blankets. I have no doubt you are making every exertion in your power to supply our wants, but the condition of affairs makes me desirous to know the prospect for the future, as it is useless to bring more men into the field than we can equip for active duty. The supply by running the blockade has become so precarious that I think we should turn our attention chiefly to our own resources, and I should like to be informed how far the latter can be counted upon. I do not think that we now receive enough shoes and blankets to supply those worn out or lost in service, so that the evil is increasing upon us. I desire to aid the Department in every way in my power. I think I can do so to advantage if the material for making shoes can be furnished me.

Please inform me whether you can provide the materials, and to what extent. I trust that no efforts will be spared to develop our own resources of supply, as a further dependence upon those from abroad can result in nothing but increased suffering and want.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VA.,
*January* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. FITZHUGH LEE,
*Commanding Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: General Stuart directs me to say that he desires you to send the Ninth Virginia Cavalry at once to Essex or Middlesex County, to be accompanied by the quartermaster and commissary of the brigade, who will establish arrangements for obtaining supplies of beef, bacon, and other commissary stores from Richmond County and the other counties of the Northern Neck, collecting these stores in as large quantities as possible, with a view to distribution to other commands.

You will instruct the colonel of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry to ascertain what are the capabilities of the counties of Essex and Middlesex to sustain, in addition to his own regiment, the other two regiments of that brigade, and report the result of his investigation to you as early as possible. Direct him to use every necessary means to maintain the discipline of his command, and urge him to efforts to increase the numbers of his regiments by recruits, bringing into service all men whom he can get who are rendered liable to military service by recent acts of Congress. Certain arrangements must be made to pay all expenses incurred by the presence of the troops both at their present encampment and in Essex County, so that no accounts may remain unsettled when the troops move from their encampments. Pending the report of Colonel Beale in reference to the quantity of supplies to be procured in Essex County, it is contemplated to send the Tenth and Thirteenth Virginia Cavalry across the James River to Cumberland County. In reference to this last and to General Wickham's brigade General Stuart will send you further instructions. These arrangements are made in accordance with suggestions made by you in an interview with General Stuart on yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. MCCLELLAN,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *January* 18, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 15th, transmitting a communication to you from the Secretary of War, with your reply. I am glad to hear that you now experience no inconvenience from your injury, and hope you may continue to feel none.

Your answer to the Secretary is such as I would expect from a true soldier and patriot as yourself. But I cannot take upon myself to decide in this matter. You are the proper person, on consultation with your medical advisers. I do not know how much ought to be attributed to long absence from the field, general debility, or the result of your injury, but I was in constant fear during the last campaign that you would sink under your duties or destroy yourself. In either event injury might have resulted. I last spring asked for your appointment provided you were able to take the field. You now know from experience what you have to undergo, and can best judge of your ability to endure it. I fear we cannot anticipate less labor than formerly.

Wishing you every happiness, and that you may be able to serve the country to the last,

I am, very truly, yours,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., January* 18, 1864.

His Excellency R. HAWES,
*Governor of Kentucky, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: Your letter of the 7th instant, urging that General J. S. Williams be assigned to a command, has been received and referred by the President to this Department. In reply, I have the honor to say that the difficulty which at present exists to assigning General Williams to command, in the pendency of charges against him, is understood, and will be appreciated by Your Excellency. They will, of course, have first to be disposed of, and every proper facility will be afforded by the Department for their investigation and decision. Without entering minutely into the abortive efforts which General Williams is represented to have made to obtain a proper command by raising troops, it may be sufficient to say that only in the case of the assignment of General Preston to General Marshall's command, in preference to General Williams, has this Department been instrumental in defeating his wishes, and strong considerations of policy connected with the relations held by General Preston to that portion of the country induced such preference. I do not understand either the merits of General Preston or the force of these considerations to be controverted. General Williams' energy, enterprise, and local knowledge have not been unappreciated, as he has been made a brigadier-general, even when his command hardly entitled him to the position. If the arrangements of the commands of the military department rendered necessary the reduction of General Williams' command it may be matter of regret, but should hardly be of complaint, by him or his friends. It is impossible to say in the contingencies of the service what command may be assigned to General Williams should the charges against him be, as it is hoped, dissipated; but I can only say no prejudice or want of appreciation by the Department shall operate against the due recognition of his claims or merits.

Very respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

RICHMOND, VA., *January* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Harrisonburg, Va.:*

Major Bell has been ordered to issue shoes to Thomas' brigade on requisition approved by you.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 19, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: I beg leave to bring your attention again to the abuse of the right of volunteering by conscripts, and its effects upon the armies in the field.

In this connection I have the honor to submit a letter* from Colonel Preston, while commandant of the camp of instruction at Columbia, which he sent me in reply to a letter from me on this subject, written recently. It will show Your Excellency the difficulties that have attended an equal distribution of conscripts from the State of South Carolina among the various regiments in different armies. The evil still exists, and unless some change is made in the law or its execution there is little chance of recruiting the reduced regiments from that State, which are with the armies most actively engaged.

The evil complained of is greater in South Carolina than in any other State, though it exists to some extent in all. The South Carolina regiments in this army are much reduced by hard service, and it has been found impossible to recruit them, principally, if not entirely, on account of the encouragement given to men to volunteer in regiments engaged in the defense of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and the measures adopted in that department to retain conscripts.

As showing the effect of this system upon the regiments engaged in local defense, many of which have seen no active service, or very little, I call your attention to the strength of the following cavalry regiments now in the State of South Carolina, as represented by General Hampton: Third Regiment (Colcock's), about 1,100 men; Fourth (Rutledge's), 1,350; Fifth (Dunovant's), 1,200; Sixth (Aiken's), 1,000. There are other organizations quite as full.

It is a matter of great moment that the recruits for this army should reach it in full time for the coming campaign, and whatever is to be done to bring them out should be done without delay. As I understand the law, the right to volunteer ceases after enrollment, and I respectfully suggest that it be vigorously enforced, and that no more enrolled men be assigned to the regiments in the department, but that they be equally distributed among those in the armies of Virginia and Tennessee.

If the Department of War has not the power to prevent this practice, I think Congress should at once confer it, as otherwise the service will suffer much. If nothing else can be done, I recommend that some of the full regiments in the Department of South Carolina, &c., be ordered to the field, and the reduced regiments sent to

* Not found.

Charleston to recruit. This would at least restrain the disposition to volunteer in the former regiments. It is not the least evil that results from the encouragement given to men to enter organizations intended for local service that they acquire the idea that they have a right to remain in such service and desert when ordered to other points. I have already mentioned to Your Excellency the cases of the commands from Western Virginia when ordered to this army last summer, as illustrating this fact, and if the reports with reference to the conduct of some of the troops sent from Charleston to Vicksburg last summer be true, it would appear that the same cause has produced a like effect among them.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I desire to state more fully to you my views with reference to procuring a supply of shoes for the army, as I fear that unless great efforts are made the return of the season of active operations will find a large number of the men barefooted.

It is the opinion of the quartermaster of this army that if we were supplied with tools and materials, from one-third to one-half of the army could be shod by the system of brigade shoemakers, already brought to your attention. I am satisfied that this system can be made an important auxiliary of the department, and am anxious that some measure may be devised to procure leather in sufficient quantities. I caused a requisition for the least amount that we could get along with, viz. 37,500 pounds to be made, of which we have only received 8,000 or 9,000 pounds. I hope that the rest will be forthcoming. I think there is leather, and enough, in the country concealed by speculators, of which we never hear until the enemy captures and destroys it. Such was the case at Salem, where General Averell reports that he destroyed cords of it. Such was also the case at Luray and Sperryville. That at Luray was in the hands of a speculator named Borst, I am informed, who had concealed it there.

If this leather cannot be had in any other way it should be impressed. But before resorting to impressment I would much prefer to resort to the system of exchanging hides for leather. This approaches nearer to a purchase on a specie basis, and would certainly draw out the leather from its concealment, and not have that tendency to repress production which is one of the worst consequences of impressment. I recommend that the prohibition against such exchanges be removed from this army at least, in view of the vital importance of procuring a prompt supply of leather. The result of the experiment would enable you to judge better of its merits, and afford a better idea of the amount of leather in the country than can be otherwise obtained.

Should you resort to impressment I advise that good men be selected to regulate it. Major Bell, quartermaster at Staunton, or Captain Phillips, assistant quartermaster at the same place, would

manage the matter so as to prevent hardship and get as much as can be expected by that system. I think that we could be more expeditiously and certainly supplied by exchange, however. Whatever is to be done must be done without delay, as it is indispensable to the efficiency of the army in the approaching campaign. The leather will be placed in charge of active and vigilant officers in the brigade, who will see that none is wasted and that all is applied to the use of the troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

---

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *January* 19, 1864.

General G. W. C. LEE,
*Executive Department:*

Corse's brigade had better be sent to Weldon, or some point on railroad to Wilmington.

R. E. LEE.

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 20, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Order General Longstreet to send Corse's brigade to Petersburg, replacing it, if necessary for his safety or communication, by some other forces of his command. Order in cipher.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 19, 1864.

General R. S. EWELL,
*Commanding Corps:*

GENERAL: I design sending General Hoke to North Carolina on special service with his brigade, and as it is much reduced I wish to increase it by the temporary addition of the Twenty-first Georgia, Doles' brigade, and the Forty-third North Carolina Regiment, Daniel's brigade. I select the Twenty-first Georgia in preference to a North Carolina regiment because it has been under General Hoke and has operated with the Forty-third North Carolina Regiment. But if General Hoke prefers to take a North Carolina regiment you can order it. I desire General Hoke to proceed on the 21st to Petersburg, and his brigade will be placed under the senior officer with orders to report to General Pickett at that place. Similar orders will be given to the commanders of the regiments named. I wish you to have them prepared with what is requisite for the field and be marched to Gordonsville, where they will take the trains to Richmond. They must take with them their cooking utensils and such tents as may be necessary. Their transportation will accompany them no farther than Gordonsville. I understand provisions are issued to the troops to include the 21st. If flour is in the hands of the men they had better cook it; if not, they can draw hard bread from the division commissary. I have directed that two days' hard bread and meat be issued to the men at Gordonsville. Hoke's bri-

gade will take the cars at Gordonsville Thursday, 21st, at 7 p. m.; the Twenty-first Georgia and Forty-third North Carolina Wednesday, 20th instant, at 7 p. m. To save time I will send the order direct to General Rodes for the two latter regiments. Please give the necessary orders, and direct General Hoke to call on me on his way for instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
*Commanding Hampton's Division:*

GENERAL: I desire you to make inquiry whether it will be advisable to send the Fifth North Carolina Cavalry to the same section of country to which the Fourth Regiment has been ordered, to recuperate during the winter and return to this army by the 1st of April.

I have consulted with the commanding general in reference to the other brigade, submitting your letter, and he is unwilling to spare so much cavalry from the army. The regiments of this brigade cannot, therefore, be sent south to recruit, but the commanding general agrees to the plan of keeping one brigade more in advance than the other, and the moving of one brigade east of the railroad down toward Essex. This arrangement I suppose you have already made. I am making every effort to procure additional wagons for your command, both for forage and ordnance trains, and hope to procure them in a few days.

Colonel Cone promised me while recently in Richmond to send up boots and shoes for your command (Young's brigade). I presume some have already been received. You will please inform me in reference to this, so that if they have not been received I can remind Colonel Cone of his promise. I found that Colonel Cone had already sent you a number of tents; you will please inform me if they have been received, and whether the supply is adequate for the wants of the men.

In reference to your recommendation to relieve the cavalry pickets down as far as Ely's Ford by infantry, the commanding general will not accede to it; it is, however, within your power to contribute some to the relief of your horses by placing the dismounted battalions on this duty.

The commanding general is unwilling for your temporary transfer to the Southwest; but while he would regret to lose your services would, nevertheless, approve your transfer if it is in accordance with your own desire to command under General Johnston, provided a suitable officer is sent to take your place.

I desire to express my high gratification at the good order and military discipline in Gordon's and Young's brigades during my recent visit to them. The memorandum of cavalry in South Carolina furnished by you was left with the commanding general for his consideration.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 15. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, January* 19, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XIX. The battalion of Maryland cavalry commanded by Lieut. Col. R. Brown will be designated as the First Maryland Cavalry; the battalion of Maryland infantry, Lieut. Col. J. R. Herbert commanding, will be designated as the Second Maryland Infantry; the battery of artillery commanded by Capt. W. H. Griffin, to be designated as the Second Maryland Artillery, together with such other companies, battalions, squadrons, and regiments as may hereafter be added, raised, assigned, or transferred to it, are organized into the Maryland Line, under the command of Col. Bradley T. Johnson, in pursuance of General Orders, No. 8, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, 1862, and act of Congress approved February 15, 1862. Col. Bradley T. Johnson is assigned to the duty of organizing and recruiting the Maryland Line.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *January* 20, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: I have delayed replying to your letter of the 4th until the time arrived for the execution of the attempt on New Berne. I regret very much that the boats on the Neuse and Roanoke are not completed. With their aid I think success would be certain. Without them, though the place may be captured, the fruits of the expedition will be lessened and our maintenance of the command of the waters in North Carolina uncertain. I think every effort should be made now to get them into service as soon as possible. You will see by the inclosed letters to Generals Pickett and Whiting the arrangements made for the land operations. The water expedition I am willing to trust to Colonel Wood. If he can succeed in capturing the gun-boats I think success will be certain, as it was by aid from the water that I expected Hoke to be mainly assisted.

In view of the opinion expressed in your letter, I would go to North Carolina myself, but I consider my presence here always necessary, especially now, when there is such a struggle to keep the army fed and clothed. General Early is still in the valley. The enemy there has been re-enforced by troops from Meade's army, and [by] calling down General Averell with his cavalry. I do not know what their intentions are. Report from General Early yesterday stated that Averell with his cavalry had started for Moorefield. I will, however, go to North Carolina if you think it necessary. General Fitz. Lee brought out of Hardy 110 prisoners, 250 horses and mules, 27 wagons, and 460 head of cattle. He captured 40 wagons, but 13 turned over on the mountains and had to be abandoned. He had also to leave behind between 100 and 200 head of cattle. The difficulties he encountered were very great, owing to the extreme cold, ice, storms, &c. Nearly all his men were frost-bitten, some badly; many injured by the falling of their horses. He got within 6 miles of Paddytown, but

could not cross the mountains, owing to the icy roads and the smoothness of his horses. He could take with him neither artillery nor wagons.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS, *January* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT,
*Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:*

GENERAL: From all the information I have received I think the garrison at New Berne can be captured, and I wish it tried, unless upon close examination you find it impracticable. You can use for that purpose Barton's, Kemper's, Corse's, and as much of Ransom's brigades as you can draw to that point. I shall send, in addition, Hoke's brigade from this army. General Hoke is familiar with the vicinity of New Berne, has recently returned from a visit to that country, and it is mainly upon his information that my opinion has been formed. He will hand you this letter, and explain to you the general plan, which, at this distance, appears to me the best. You can modify it according to circumstances developed by investigation and your good judgment. It is proposed that General Barton shall pass south of Trent River and attack the forces said to be stationed behind Brice's Creek, get possession of the railroad to Beaufort, cut off re-enforcements from that quarter, and take the town in reverse. General Hoke will move down between the Trent and the Neuse, endeavor to surprise the troops on Batchelder's Creek, silence the guns in the Star fort and batteries near the Neuse, and penetrate the town in that direction. Whitford's battalion, or such other force as may be designated, to move down north of the Neuse, occupy, if they cannot capture, Fort Anderson, at Barrington Ferry, and endeavor to take in flank with the batteries the line south of the Neuse, so as to lighten Hoke's work. The night previous to the land attack, Colonel Wood, of the Navy, with 200 men in boats, will descend the Neuse, and endeavor to surprise and capture the gun-boats in that river, and by their aid drive the enemy from their guns. General Whiting will be requested on the day appointed for the attack to threaten Swansborough with the troops he has north of the Cape Fear, so as to fix the attention of the enemy at Morehead City, &c., and to co-operate otherwise in the general plan. Everything will depend upon the secrecy, expedition, and boldness of your movements. General Barton should move first, and be strong enough to resist any combination of the forces from New Berne and Beaufort. The cavalry had better accompany him to cut the telegraph and railroad, gain information, &c. General Hoke with his own brigade should move next, the force north of the Neuse to keep pace with him. Colonel Wood will attend to his part. If successful, everything in New Berne should be sent back to a place of security. In that event, too, it is hoped that by the aid of the gun-boats water transportation can be secured, the enemy driven from Washington, Plymouth, &c., and much subsistence for the army obtained. I wish you, therefore, to follow up your success. It will also have the happiest effect in North Carolina and inspire the people. I propose Major Dearing for the com-

mand of the artillery of the expedition. With the two battalions of Longstreet's corps, near Petersburg, there should be twelve 10-pounder Parrotts and two 20-pounder Parrotts. Two 20-pounder Parrotts will be sent from Richmond. At Kinston I understand there are four Napoleons and one 3-inch rifle. From Branch's battalion I hope you will get more rifled guns, of which, if possible, you should have about twenty, and as many Napoleons as you desire. The guns and ammunition must be sent by railroad, and the horses by the common route. See that you have a sufficiency of ammunition and subsistence. I wish you also not to interrupt the general travel on the railroad, but to use the empty trains going south for the transportation of troops, &c. When the day of attack is fixed notify General Whiting. If you have to use the telegraph, merely say, "The day is"—name the day of the month; he will comprehend. Commit nothing to the telegraph that may disclose your purpose. You must deceive the enemy as to your purpose, and conceal it from the citizens. As regards the concentration of troops, you may put it on the ground of apprehension of an attack from New Berne. General Hoke will give out that he is going to arrest deserters and recruit his diminished regiments.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS, *January* 20, 1864.

General W. H. C. WHITING,
*Commanding at Wilmington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: An attack on New Berne is contemplated by the forces under command of General Pickett. The time will be between the 25th and 30th instant. I request that you will give all the assistance in your power, especially by threatening simultaneously with your troops north of the Cape Fear the enemy's positions at Morehead City, &c., so as to prevent their re-enforcing New Berne. General Pickett will telegraph you the day, by which you will know what is meant. Commit nothing to the telegraph on the subject, and keep the matter secret.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *January* 20, 1864.

General R. F. HOKE:

GENERAL: I desire you to proceed to-morrow to Petersburg and arrange with General Pickett for the transportation of the troops, guns, &c., to Kinston. Your brigade will follow you in the evening, and I desire that it pass through Richmond at once toward its destination. Upon completing the business concerning which you have oral instructions, you will take some convenient position in North Carolina and recruit your regiments. Communicate with the enrolling officers in the State and endeavor to get conscripts and recruits. To cover your movement you will give out that it is for the purpose

*See also copy of this letter as furnished by Brigadier-General Martin, p. 87.

of arresting deserters and absentees and recruiting your brigade. On arriving at Petersburg you will deliver to General Pickett the orders with which you are charged, and explain to him fully the plan of operations. Report to me your progress in collecting troops for your brigade, your position, &c. See strictly to the comfort and health of your men, as well as to their discipline and instruction.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 20, 1864.

General A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General:*

GENERAL: I design sending General Hoke to North Carolina on special service. About 1,000 of his men will leave Gordonsville this evening about 7 p. m. for Richmond, and the remainder, about the same number, to-morrow evening, 21st. I have divided them in order that they might take the down freight trains, so as not to interfere with the supply of provisions for this army. I request that you will forward them to Petersburg to General Pickett, who will give them further orders. They can march from Richmond to Petersburg, if more convenient, but you will have to forward their camp equipage. I shall direct General Pickett, in forwarding them on, to employ the empty trains going south and endeavor not to embarrass the transportation of supplies on the road. Please make arrangements to pass them right through Richmond. Each regiment will be in charge of its commanding officer. General Hoke will see to their conveyance from Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *January* 20, 1864.

Col. JOHN TAYLOR WOOD:

COLONEL: General Hoke's brigade will leave to-morrow evening. He himself will precede it to Petersburg to arrange for its transportation and for that of the guns, &c. He carries orders for General Pickett. I have endeavored to anticipate everything. If you want any help from the military call upon General Pickett, and this will be your warrant. If you get possession of the gun-boats turn their guns on the batteries on the Neuse, to facilitate Hoke's advance. Should the place fall, secure all the water transportation you can for the movement of troops and supplies. Urge the completion of the gun-boats on the Roanoke and Neuse, that they may become available as soon as possible.

Wishing you all success, and commending you to the care of a merciful Providence,

I am, very truly, yours,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

PETERSBURG, *January* 20, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Following telegrams just received from General Ransom:

WELDON, *January* 20, 1864.

Colonel Jones, Thirty-fifth North Carolina Infantry, has this moment reported the enemy 5,000 strong (doubtful) moving on him. I have ordered the Twenty-fourth [North Carolina] from Tarborough to support him, and shall run down myself to attend the matter. The other arrangements you directed are being made.

Second:

General Hoke informed me on Saturday that he was ordered to relieve Faison, of the Fifty-sixth [North Carolina] Regiment, and that he would send them to me. Faison has just sent in a requisition of ordnance, and holds himself at High Point ready to move. If Faison and his regiment are to be returned to this place there is no use in sending ammunition to him. Please have the proper inquiry made at Richmond, and advise me.

If the Fifty-sixth is to join General Ransom, please telegraph them at once, as they are needed.

G. E. PICKETT.

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RICHMOND, *January* 20, 1864.

General SAMUEL JONES:

Military possession must be taken of the East Tennessee road, and Mr. Owen, of the Virginia and Tennessee road, be appointed military superintendent. Have inventory taken of all property, locomotives, cars, and machinery by a board of officers. Send all damaged locomotives or cars for repair to the workshops of Virginia and Tennessee road. I will write.

JAS. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, January* 20, 1864.

R. L. OWEN, Esq.,
*President of Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, Lynchburg:*

SIR: The Secretary of War directs me to take military possession of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad and appoint you military superintendent. He further directs that I appoint a board of officers to take an inventory of all the property, locomotives, cars, and machinery, and send damaged locomotives and cars for repairs to the workshops of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

Please procure all information you can as to the property of all kinds belonging to the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, and where it may be found, and inform me. If you can do so, please come here without delay. The Secretary's telegram was in cipher, so say nothing of this.

Very respectfully, &c.,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

RICHMOND, *January* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES:

If in your command, send Corse's brigade immediately to Petersburg, where it is required for an emergency, replacing it if necessary for your safety or communications by some other forces of your command. General Longstreet has been telegraphed to same effect.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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[JANUARY 20, 1864.]

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President of Confederate States:*

The undersigned, members of the Legislature from the upper valley and southwestern portions of the State of Virginia, would most respectfully represent to Your Excellency that the sections of the State from which they come produces a large surplus of horses, cattle, hogs, grain, and hay, and that nearly all the iron, salt, and lead manufactured in the Confederate States is made in that section.

The recent raid of the enemy into it has produced a general feeling of insecurity, so much so that if an additional force is not sent for the defense of that section a considerable part of the population will emigrate to other parts of the Confederacy, and thereby greatly reduce the production. We are sincerely of the opinion that as soon as the condition of the roads and water-courses will admit of it the enemy will invade our section for the purpose of destroying the iron-works and other manufactories, and particularly for the purpose of destroying the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, thereby greatly impairing our means to prosecute the war to a successful termination.

We are satisfied that the force now on that line is wholly inadequate to its defense, and we respectfully request that such additional forces may be sent as re-enforcements as will effectually secure that result. From the valley of the Kanawha to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad several ranges of lofty mountains intervene. There are but few passes in these mountains through which a mounted force with artillery can pass. If these were sufficiently fortified and garrisoned it would require a much larger force of the enemy than any he has heretofore had at his command in that section in order to enable him to make a successful invasion. We earnestly and respectfully ask that the prayer of this petition will receive from Your Excellency that consideration which its importance demands.

[Signed by] John T. Anderson, of Botetourt and Craig; Ro. M. Wiley, senator from Roanoke and Botetourt district; Mason Mathews, delegate from Greenbrier County; Cyrus P. Bryan, delegate from Alleghany and Bath Counties; A. C. Cummings, delegate from Washington County; Green James, delegate from Botetourt County; James C. Taylor, senator thirty-ninth senatorial district; A. J. Deyerle, delegate from Roanoke; D. G. Douthat, delegate from Montgomery; Isaac Goodykoontz, delegate from Floyd; R. T. Bowan, delegate from Tazewell; George Graham, delegate from Washington; James H. Horton, delegate from Scott; John H. Thompson, Smyth County; J. M. Ferguson, Wayne County; Samuel J. Mullins, delegate Henry County; David Miller, delegate Lee, Scott, and Wise; Wilson

Lively, delegate Monroe; James B. Johnson, delegate Carroll; John S. Draper, delegate Pulaski County; I. A. Alderson, senator from Greenbrier district; R. M. Bates, senator from forty-second senatorial district; William Frazier, senator from Rockbridge district; Bolivar Christian, senator from Augusta district.

I concur fully in the necessity of the defense suggested in the foregoing petition.

SAML. PRICE.

[First indorsement.]

JANUARY 23, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General R. E. Lee for remarks, &c.

J. D.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *January* 26, 1864.

I think it more important that the troops now in West Virginia should be more thoroughly organized and disciplined than increased. Without the latter, numbers will avail but little. The troops should be kept in the field, instructed, and inspired with confidence; otherwise we shall meet with continued disaster. The enemy is now much emboldened, and on the opening of spring another advance on his part may be expected. The only additional force that I know of that can be sent to that department is the Fifty-fourth Virginia Regiment, Colonel Trigg, and the Sixty-third, Colonel Dunn. These regiments are now with General Johnston's army. They were originally sent to re-enforce General Buckner in East Tennessee, and thus got to the Army of Tennessee. I understand they are much reduced in numbers. Many of the absentees from these regiments are now in West Virginia, and might be gotten to their regiments if returned to the State. The regiments might otherwise be recruited. I recommend these or their equivalent be sent to that department.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

P. S.—The troops now under General Ransom (Wharton's, Jackson's (Tennessee), and W. E. Jones' brigades) may in the spring be returned to that department.

R. E. L.

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DUBLIN, *January* 20, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Your telegram of this date received. Lieutenant-General Longstreet has assumed command of all my troops in East Tennessee, including Corse's brigade.

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, January* 20, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I am informed on good authority that immediately after Brigadier-General Averell returned to his base of operations from

his raid to Salem he commenced preparations for another offensive movement on a larger scale. He has been remounting the command (four regiments and a battalion and six field pieces of artillery) which he has heretofore operated with, and in addition is mounting three other regiments, viz, the Sixth, Tenth, and Twelfth West Virginia Regiments. There are, besides, three or four regiments and a field battery at and near Beverly to co-operate with him. There are eleven regiments and two field batteries of six guns each in the Kanawha Valley. Two of those regiments are mounted and they are actively engaged mounting others, which are to constitute the cavalry brigade of Brigadier-General Duffié.

I have information from various sources of the intention of the enemy to make another raid on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad as soon as it can be made, and I have no doubt of their purpose to persevere in their efforts to cut and destroy this line of communication, the iron and lead mines and the salt-works. If they cannot accomplish their purpose this winter, they will no doubt endeavor to occupy Greenbrier and Monroe early in the spring, and make them their base of operations on this road. They know as well as you do how inadequate the force I have is for the protection of this department.

I deem it my duty to lay this information before you and invite your attention to my letters of the 26th of December last and 17th instant to you, and my letter of the 29th December last to the Adjutant and Inspector General, and respectfully but earnestly ask that at least the troops I carried to East Tennessee in September and October last and the Fifty-fourth and Sixty-third Virginia Regiments of infantry be returned to me.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

Place within the other letters referred to and submit to the President for his consideration and instructions to me.

J. A. S.

[Second indorsement.]

JANUARY 28, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

General Jones' letters of the 26th and 29th December, 1863, are herewith transmitted.* The letter of January 17 was sent up on the 22d.

I shall be pleased to receive instructions on the subject presented.

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Third indorsement.]

SECRETARY OF WAR:

It is desirable to increase the force in Western Virginia; whether the mode proposed is the best may be doubted. General Longstreet is in command in front of the salt-works, and may be relied on to cover the approaches west of the Guyandotte. The subject of the distribution of troops will require further consideration.

J. D.

*See inclosures Nos. 1 and 2.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WESTERN VA. AND EAST TENN.,
*Dublin, December 26, 1863.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I am informed that a large portion of the enemy's cavalry, recently in East Tennessee, is now in Kentucky and near the Virginia line. I think it highly probable that they contemplate a raid on the salt-works and lead mines. I therefore respectfully suggest that the infantry and a part of the artillery of Major-General Ransom's command be placed in position to guard those works and this line of railroad. One regiment of Brigadier-General Wharton's brigade is stationed near Saltville. I think it advisable that the other part of the brigade be placed at or near Glade Springs.

To defend this line of road against the raid on Salem, which I apprehended would be much more extensive and destructive than it proved to be, I ordered Major-General Ransom to send his infantry to Bristol, from which point it could have been moved by railroad to the point where their services might have been needed.

Ransom referred my order to Lieutenant-General Longstreet, under whose orders he was acting, who declined sending the troops, and informed me that Ransom's command was under his orders, as he (Longstreet) conceived, by authority of the President. Hence I can give no orders to that portion of my troops. I therefore make the foregoing suggestions to you for such action as you may think proper.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

What orders have been given by the President placing Major-General Ransom's command under General Longstreet's command? I cannot judge without such.

J. A. S.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WESTERN VA. AND EAST TENN.,
*Dublin, December 29, 1863.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjt. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: The recent raid on Salem shows, I think, very clearly the importance of having on this line of railroad a force adequate to its protection. I have been satisfied ever since I assumed command in this department of the importance of keeping a regular force directly on this road, and placed such a force on it last spring. But in July last, under orders from the War Department, I was obliged to send that force away, and have not been able since then to replace it.

Under the conviction that it is important to keep some regular force on this road, I respectfully and earnestly recommend that the Fifty-fourth and Sixty-third Virginia Regiments, now serving with

the army lately commanded by General Bragg, be ordered to report to me for duty, that I may employ them to protect this important line. Both of those regiments were under my command a year ago. The Fifty-fourth was sent last spring, under orders from the War Department, to East Tennessee. About the 1st of September last, under an urgent call from Major-General Buckner, which you desired me to comply with, I sent the Sixty-third Regiment to East Tennessee for temporary duty, as I supposed. They both, I think, belong properly to my command. The exigencies of the service have caused them to be temporarily detached. They have rendered valuable and distinguished service under General Bragg, and are now greatly reduced in numbers. I think the interest of the service will be promoted by bringing them back to this department, where they were raised and organized.

The senior officer of the two regiments, Col. R. C. Trigg, of the Fifty-fourth, is an officer of great merit, who distinguished himself at Chickamauga by his gallantry and good conduct, and is held in high esteem by the officers under whom he has served, is thoroughly acquainted with this section of country, and I think could aid materially in its defense.

If those two regiments are brought here I am sure they can render most valuable aid in protecting this section of country. As they are from this section of country I believe that under the laws which it is understood will be passed by the present Congress they can be filled up nearly if not quite to the maximum by the opening of spring. It is probable they will diminish rather than increase in strength where they are are.

I earnestly commend my suggestion to the favorable consideration of the War Department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 2, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War.

I do not see how these regiments can be separated from General Johnston's command at this time, and I think it would be hazardous to return them to Western Virginia, where they were recruited, for the purpose of filling their ranks and remaining in that section, as experience has shown that where regiments are stationed in sections where they are enlisted military discipline is apt to be loose, by the men straggling to visit their homes and families, and this has proven to be the case to some extent in Western Virginia. Corse's brigade, of Pickett's division, was sent to General Jones some time since, and will supply in numbers the two absent regiments referred to. I know not where troops can be obtained to supply this requisition of General Jones.

[S. COOPER,]
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

Approved.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding, &c., Staunton, Va.:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 11th instant, with General Rosser's dispatch inclosed, is received.

I hope that you will bear in mind the great importance of obtaining supplies of subsistence for the army. I fully appreciate the great difficulties that attended the late expedition to Hardy and Hampshire, and have no doubt that the men brought out all the cattle that they could under the circumstances; but I am informed by Major Hawks and others that there are many cattle in that region still which might be obtained, and which we should spare no effort to get. Owing to the condition of the roads and the intense cold, rendering rapid movements necessary, those parts of the country where most of the cattle are said to be were not visited. The cattle brought out were obtained generally on the line of march, as I am informed by Major Gilmor. In sending any expedition into that country, care should be taken to select men well acquainted with it, and who know where the cattle are to be found. I desire that if you find the weather and roads unsuitable for the movements of an organized body of troops you will endeavor to get all the cattle, &c., that can be brought out by intelligent and active individuals, giving them all the assistance in your power. Maj. A. H. Johnson, commissary of subsistence, Harrisonburg; Captain Coontz, assistant commissary of subsistence, New Market; and Captain Ross, of Gilmor's battalion, have been named to me as well qualified to aid in this work, by their energy, intelligence, and knowledge of the resources of the country. I wish you to put them and other suitable persons at this important business as soon as possible.

I have just received a letter from General Sedgwick, dated the 20th instant, which shows that he is present himself on the other side of the Rapidan, commanding in the absence of General Meade. How much of his corps has been sent to the valley is uncertain. Some reports say a brigade, others a division, and others still a brigade and a division. The camps are said to be still standing, so that it is certain that the whole corps has not gone.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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STAUNTON, VA., *January* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding Valley District, Harrisonburg, Va.:*

GENERAL: I last night received your letter of yesterday, giving me instructions. I brought my assistants along with me, with the consent of Generals Ewell and Lee, and I have obtained quarters in Staunton, where I can keep them at work and supervise them once a week at least.

I have a surveyed map of Rockbridge County, and also a survey of portions of Augusta, Bath, and Alleghany Counties, and I shall have them at once put together by my assistants, and so forward the work assigned me. I am now making tracings of the maps I have

to take along with me, that I may verify them; that and other necessary preparations will occupy the rest of this week, and on Monday I shall start, and go first along the line of the North Mountain, by the road nearest to it on the east, and go as far as where the road from the Sweet Springs to Fincastle crosses the same mountain, then come back by the nearest line of parallel roads on the west of the North Mountain, and so back and forth until I reach the Alleghany Mountains, as I suppose by so doing I shall be able best to comply with your orders. Of course, I shall examine all the crossings of the mountains from one parallel valley to another. I think I had better make the main road from Harrisonburg, through Staunton, Lexington, Buchanan, and Fincastle, on to Salem, the limit of the map on the southeast; the road from Dry River Gap to Harrisonburg and the Parkersburg road from Staunton westward the limit on the northeast; the Alleghany Mountains the limit on the northwest, and the road leading from the White Sulphur Springs via the Sweet Springs to Salem the limit on the southwest, making a section of country 100 miles long and 40 wide, as shown in the inclosed tracing.* Such, I understand, is the intention of your orders when you ask for "a map of Augusta and Rockbridge from Staunton and Lexington westward, and the counties adjoining them on the west," and "ascertain the routes from Covington to Lexington, Buchanan, Fincastle, and Salem." All the materials from Staunton northeast to the proposed line are now ready to my hand, and only need reduction. If this boundary is not the one you desire, please specify to me a limit. I need a courier or cavalryman to go along with me; it expedites my observations much to have some one to send to ascertain names of houses, &c., while I am taking notes and sketching topography. A courier of Major Allan's (A. D. Moore) desires to accompany me, and General Ewell and Major Allan have consented for him to come, but General Lee has referred the matter to you. I will be obliged to you if you will approve it. I have asked Colonel Imboden to let one of his men accompany me next week, which will, I hope, meet with your approval. I have always had a courier sent with me when on such duty.

I propose to construct the map on a scale of $\frac{1}{160000}$ or $\frac{4}{10}$ of an inch to the mile. My address will be Staunton.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

JED. HOTCHKISS,

*Captain and Topographical Engineer, Second Corps.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,

*January* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES,

*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 17th instant is received, and I return my thanks for the cattle and beef you have furnished. Our necessity is great, and I hope they will soon arrive. It is necessary to make every exertion to procure supplies in order to keep our armies in the field. Everything in the way of subsistence that can be brought out of the enemy's lines by secret means should be procured. But, in addition to this, I want you to try and ascertain where there are cat-

*Not found.

tle, sheep, hogs, &c., that might be obtained by sending a force after them. If I can learn of these in sufficient quantities to justify an expedition, I will send one, if it is in my power. Be cautious in receiving reports on this subject, as they are apt to be exaggerated or made without accurate observation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 21, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: During the past year Major Mosby, of the Partisan Rangers, has been very active in harassing the rear of the Federal army operating in Northern Virginia. He is zealous, bold, and skillful, and with very small resources has accomplished a great deal. I beg leave therefore to recommend his promotion to be lieutenant-colonel, under the act approved April 21, 1862, authorizing the President to commission such officers as he may deem proper, with authority to form bands of partisan rangers, in companies, battalions, or regiments. I do this in order to show him that his services have been appreciated, and to encourage him to still greater activity and zeal.

I inclose two reports* of his operations since January 1. Besides these two attacks there have been two others, the reports of which have not reached me. You will see that he has commenced the new year with considerable zeal.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 21, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: The supply of subsistence for the army is a matter of vital moment, and is now the chief subject of anxiety to me. I am using every means in my power to meet the wants of the troops, so far as can be done by bringing out cattle, &c., from within the lines of the enemy, but my efforts have not been attended with the success I hoped for, owing to the extreme difficulty of military operations in the regions to which expeditions have been sent. But with the most favorable results those means cannot be depended upon for regular and permanent supplies, and I have given much thought to the subject of bringing out those in the hands of our people. The Commissary Department is unable to do this effectually with the agencies now employed. I believe there is a great amount of subsistence in the hands of the people, many having laid in stores to serve them for a long period. This is in part owing to the condition of the currency, as the people prefer to hoard supplies rather than money, which fluctuates so rapidly that they cannot depend upon it

*See p. 9 for only report found bearing date prior to January 21.

for purchasing to meet future necessities. The system of impressment, though absolutely necessary, is very objectionable in many ways, and not calculated to bring out fully the resources of the country. If we had coin to offer for provisions I believe that enough would come forward. I have thought that the money or credit that was employed to purchase subsistence abroad, to be brought in through the blockade, might be more safely and efficaciously employed to procure that which is in the hands of our people. If there be any funds abroad or credit which the Government can command for this purpose, it has occurred to me that it would be well to call for proposals to furnish rations to be paid for in foreign exchange in such sums as may be determined upon. Private enterprise would thus be stimulated to collect supplies inaccessible to the purchasing and impressing officers, and the spirit of avarice that is now the worst enemy of the country would be enlisted in its service. The contracts should be awarded to the lowest bidder, and facilities for transportation offered by the Government to reduce the price. I feel convinced that the result would be favorable, and I think that, if possible, it should be tried, even at the expense of the abandonment of any employment of the means of the Government abroad that is not equally necessary to the maintenance of the army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *January* 22, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Your telegram of yesterday received. General Hoke went on yesterday with full instructions concerning the troops you alluded to. He probably reached Petersburg last evening.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 22, 1864

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: A regular supply of provisions to the troops in this army is a matter of great importance. Short rations are having a bad effect upon the men, both morally and physically. Desertions to the enemy are becoming more frequent, and the men cannot continue healthy and vigorous if confined to this spare diet for any length of time. Unless there is a change, I fear the army cannot be kept effective, and probably cannot be kept together. I am granting furloughs at the rate of sixteen for each company of 100 men, and eight for every company of 50 men, and other companies in proportion. This alleviates the matter to some extent, but these furloughs cannot be continued with safety longer than the opening of spring, nor increased without embarrassing the railroads in the country. It is absolutely necessary that the army should be properly fed. The present distribution of the supplies purchased by the Commissary Department does not effect the object. I recom-

mend, therefore, that that portion of the Army Regulations, No. 1127, which authorizes commissaries to sell to officers for the use of their families be rescinded. I am confident that a large amount of supplies will thus be saved for the subsistence of the Army. At Richmond, Petersburg, Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Augusta, Atlanta, Mobile, and a multitude of minor posts, many thousand rations are consumed for officers' families. This regulation was copied from the U. S. Army, where it was intended as a measure of necessity for the subsistence of officers and families on the frontier. The privilege was not designed to be used by those officers stationed in cities, where the market was open to all. The regulation is liable to much abuse, especially at the minor posts, which are very numerous, and causes great dissatisfaction among the people, who assert that their tithes, instead of going to the support of the Army, are consumed by the families of the officers. The posts are now so attractive that there is a constant effort to create new ones, or to accumulate officers at those already established. The change of the regulation would arrest these abuses and place the officers at posts on a nearer equality with those in the field. They should make the same arrangements to provide for their families which their comrades in the field are compelled to make, with less opportunity. I hope this matter will receive your early attention.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[First indorsement.]

BUREAU OF SUBSISTENCE,
*Richmond, January 27*, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Secretary of War.

In respect to the vital importance of sufficient food for the Army of Northern Virginia and the ill effects of "short rations" now represented by General Lee, I refer to my letter to you in response to his communication of 21st ultimo, recommending the purchase of meat with coin or sterling exchange. In my judgment, his reasoning on this subject is as erroneous as was that against the exercise of the power of impressment vested by law in the general commanding. General Lee now recommends that officers be no longer allowed to purchase from commissaries supplies for themselves and their families, first, because a large quantity will be thus saved for the troops; second, that the regulation allowing it was taken from those of the old service, which was then made to enable officers at frontier posts to provide for their families, but was not designed for the benefit of those stationed in cities, where the markets are open to all; third, that the people are much dissatisfied, believing that the tithes are consumed by the officers congregated at small posts; fourth, that this inducement causes a constant effort to create new posts and more officers than are needed. Frontier posts generally afford a better chance of obtaining bread and meat than the cities mentioned by General Lee do now, and the commissariat has no superfluities to furnish. Nothing that is not issued to men is sold to officers. There is no doubt that some abuses occur which should be corrected when discovered. The creation of new posts should never be permitted when not necessary, and this bureau sees no difficulty in preventing the accumulation of officers at posts when not needed or of dispersing them by

direct methods. At present rate of mere breadstuffs, flour, and meal, in the cities mentioned by General Lee, an officer's pay will not purchase much, and those who are stationed at posts remote from their homes must either become inextricably in debt or resign. Officers in the field have left their families at home. I recommend that the sale of meat be stopped to the families of officers assigned to posts by order of the Secretary of War, but that those who have their families with them be allowed to purchase other supplies under the same rules as heretofore. The virtual nullification of the impressment law by the action of States, corporations, and courts. and the directions of the Secretary of War to purchase on the best terms possible, lessens very much the benefit of the privilege.

L. B. NORTHROP,
*Commissary-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

The proposed restriction to the sale of meat to officers at posts is approved.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

[Third indorsement.]

OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
*February* 9, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Secretary of War.

As there is a bill pending in Congress on this subject, I recommend that action hereon be suspended temporarily, but that the Secretary order an inspection to be made, so that the number of officers be reduced at the posts, if General Lee's complaint is well founded in reference to that point.

L. B. NORTHROP,
*Commissary-General of Subsistence.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 11, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Let an inspection such as the Commissary-General recommends be ordered.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

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JANUARY 22, 1864.

Col. C. F. M. GARNETT,
*Commissioner, &c.:*

COLONEL: I am instructed by the honorable Secretary of War to inform you that he deems the present time favorable to a renewed attempt for saving the iron from the railroad between Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek, and to call upon you to take the steps necessary to effect this object.

The condition of things in East Tennessee is such as to invite a prompt and vigorous effort to save the iron from the Rogersville Branch Railroad. This section of country is now within our lines, and sufficiently protected to admit of the operations of a working party employed on the removal of the iron, whilst the reconstruction of the bridges on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, which,

according to information received at the bureau, will be completed within a week, will afford means of transporting the iron removed from the road in question.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. RIVES,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA., *January* 22, 1864.

The commanding general considers it due to the army to state that the temporary reduction of rations has been caused by circumstances beyond the control of those charged with its support. Its welfare and comfort are the objects of his constant and earnest solicitude, and no effort has been spared to provide for its wants. It is hoped that the exertions now being made will render the necessity of short duration, but the history of the army has shown that the country can require no sacrifice too great for its patriotic devotion.

Soldiers! You tread with no unequal step the road by which your fathers marched through suffering, privations, and blood to independence. Continue to emulate in the future, as you have in the past, their valor in arms, their patient endurance of hardships, their high resolve to be free, which no trial could shake, no bribe seduce, no danger appal, and be assured that the just God who crowned their efforts with success will, in His own good time, send down His blessing upon yours.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: Your letter with regard to recruiting and strengthening your command has been received. I am anxious to do all in my power to effect that object. One brigade has been sent to the valley, as you suggested, and it was hoped there would be a sufficiency of forage for the other two in the counties below the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad. I regret to hear of the absolute deficiency of long forage. To send any of the regiments back to South Carolina is impossible. The official reports from North Carolina state a deficiency of forage on the Roanoke, on account of the freshets last summer. I have, however, written to the Quartermaster-General to make inquiries on the subject.

The only relief which I can propose is to send one of the remaining brigades to Essex and Middlesex, while the other is on duty and alternate, so as to give each some opportunity of recruiting their horses. It is absolutely necessary to keep one brigade on duty, or a force equal to the strength of one brigade.

[Would?] it answer to send two regiments of the North Carolina brigade to that State and two regiments of Butler's brigade to Middlesex and Essex, and alternate with these from the remaining regiments of the two brigades?

With reference to strengthening your command from other depart-

ments I have made frequent efforts to do so, but the matter has in every instance been referred to the generals commanding those departments, and they have always objected to the transfers. I do not believe the Secretary of War will order these commands to this army without their consent. I will, however, write again, and urge the matter upon his attention, and recommend that General Butler be sent on the special mission which you propose.

If you desire to take a command in the Army of the Mississippi I will not interpose any objection, though I should be sorry to lose your services in this army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 23, 1864

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: The cavalry of this army, by its hard service, summer and winter, and through the deficiency of forage in the latter season, has become very much reduced. This is especially true of the two southern brigades, which have not the same opportunities of remounting themselves with those from Virginia. The enemy have always had on this line a cavalry force greatly superior in numbers, and will doubtless recruit their cavalry divisions largely before the next campaign. I hear of no recruits coming to this army, and see but little prospect of any, as they all choose the regiments and companies (already filled to overflowing) which are not called upon for very active duty. I think it is of the highest importance that steps should be taken to strengthen our cavalry. I recommend that some portion of the cavalry in South Carolina and Southwestern Virginia be sent to this army so soon as the grass begins to grow. I know that the commanders of these departments will make objections to this, but I think it for the department to decide whether our forces are to remain scattered over the country or to be concentrated to meet the superior forces of the enemy. I recommend that a South Carolina regiment be formed of the Holcombe Legion (five companies) in the Department of Richmond, and four companies under Major Whitner in Southwestern Virginia, and one of the detached companies in South Carolina; that this and one regiment from South Carolina be added to the two South Carolina regiments in this army to form a South Carolina brigade. I would recommend that General Butler be sent to South Carolina to complete this brigade and to recruit the two regiments here from the excess reported in the regiments and companies on duty in that State. General Hampton reports to me four South Carolina regiments of cavalry in that department, numbering about 4,600 men, besides twelve companies, five of which were raised without proper authority. I recommend that Millen's Georgia battalion of four companies be added to the Jeff. Davis Legion; that the Phillips Legion be recruited by four companies from Georgia on duty in that State or in North Carolina, and that these, with Anderson's regiment from Georgia, be formed into a brigade. I would ask, too, that the order once issued assigning the Eighth and Fourteenth Virginia Regiments to this army be re-

newed. I think the proposed arrangements would bring together and make effective troops which in detached companies and regiments are now of but little service.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. E. B. STUART,
*Comdg. Cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: In connection with the disposition of the two brigades of Fitz. Lee's division now near Charlottesville, as proposed by Major-General Lee and indorsed by you, I am directed by the general commanding to say that he desires that the transportation of this command be kept together and well cared for. Perhaps a portion of it can be judiciously employed by Major-General Hampton in foraging and supplying the brigades of Young and Gordon, as General Hampton has expressed a desire for additional wagons for this purpose. Such as is not turned over to him for temporary service must be placed together under the proper officer of the quartermaster's department, who shall see that the animals are properly foraged and protected and the wagons placed in the best possible condition. If the transportation cannot be properly attended to in this way, it must be turned over to Major Harman, the acting chief quartermaster of the army, until required by the troops.

General Lee directs me to add that Major-General Early reports that Major-General Lee carried off with him some fifteen or sixteen of the captured wagons and most of the captured mules. Every one of them must be turned in to the chief quartermaster of the army and a report of the number of wagons and mules promptly made to these headquarters.

The general commanding wishes the headquarters of Lee's cavalry division, after the contemplated disposition shall have been effected, established at some point nearer the troops of that division now in front, say west of Orange Court-House, and somewhere between Lomax's brigade and the camps in rear.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WILMINGTON, *January* 24, 1864

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

From my scout, the enemy's forces at New Berne are about 7,000; they are very much excited. Some negroes ran away from near Kinston and told them there were a great many troops in Kinston and they expected to attack New Berne soon. The Yankees were out to Pollocksville on the 21st, looking for place to throw up works. Preparations for a raid have been in progress for some days. Roads bad.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 25, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
*Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: I have received a copy of an authority granted by the Department to Lieut. John W. Carter, assisted by Sergt. John Chew and Jasper N. Jones, of Chew's battery, to raise a company of horse artillery within the enemy's lines. I have often had occasion to bring to your attention the practical working of similar authorizations, and respectfully ask that my previous representations be considered in connection with those I now have the honor to submit. I should hesitate to repeat my views on this subject were they merely matters of opinion, but I deem it improper to withhold from you the results of actual experience and facts but too fully attested by the records of this army and the serious diminution of its numbers.

Such authority as that granted to Lieutenant Carter will inevitably result in taking men from our infantry service, where they are most wanted, and promoting dissatisfaction and desertion among those who remain. This, as I have stated, is not a matter of opinion only, but a well-ascertained fact. I do not hesitate to say that there is not a single command of the kind proposed by Lieutenant Carter to be raised in which there are not men properly belonging to this or some other of the principal armies of the Confederacy, which can ill afford to lose them. This fact proceeds in part from the direct efforts of those engaged in raising such commands to procure enlistments regardless of the obligations of those whom they approach, and partly from the strong disposition of the infantry to get into the cavalry or artillery, and of all to enter organizations which promise them service near their homes or of a local character. Already such organizations have in a good degree absorbed those men upon whom we relied to swell our reduced ranks for the coming campaign, and the consequences, in my judgment, involve the question of our ability to keep the field against the largely recruited armies of the enemy unless every man who belongs to the army be retained and all fit for active service be sent to it promptly, so as to increase materially its present strength. We must rely for deliverance from our enemies upon other means than our arms. I trust that the truth of this assertion may be realized in time.

In addition to the repeated instances already made known to the Department of the enlistment of men belonging to this army in other commands, I now have the resignation of Capt. Wellington Eastham, of Company E, Forty-ninth Virginia Regiment, based upon the fact that of 34 men now remaining on his muster-rolls but 2 are present for duty. Some of the absentees are satisfactorily accounted for, but an inspection shows that of the 34 there are 14 deserters, 2 of whom are known to be in Gilmor's battalion, 1 in the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. A second lieutenant absent without leave is also in Gilmor's battalion. Captain Eastham, who is represented by his superior officers to be attentive and zealous in the discharge of his duty, says: "A large majority of those absent have either deserted or joined other commands, from which I have been unable to recover them. Repeated attempts to recover and recruit my company have proved fruitless." I need not enlarge upon the importance of filling up this company before making new or increasing those engaged in local service. While preparing to write this letter, Brig. Gen. J. M.

Jones informed me that one of his men, just returned from furlough, had been offered a horse and equipments as an inducement to join a company of cavalry now being raised by a Captain Kendrick, to be attached to the command of Colonel or Major Owens [Bowen], in General Sam. Jones' department. The man refused, but others have been seduced by like offers, and General Jones informs me that he has ordered charges to be preferred against Captain K.

Instances of a similar kind could be multiplied indefinitely. The men thus seduced, or who enlist in other commands voluntarily, are lost to the Army. Their own fear of the consequences of their crime, and the apprehension of those who enlist them of being held responsible, makes it almost impossible to recover them, and when brought back it is to receive that punishment without which all discipline is at an end. The dissatisfaction created among those who remain is an evil of no less consequence than the actual loss of men. I regret extremely that I have failed to impress the Department with the magnitude of this evil, as it has been made painfully apparent to my own mind.

I am persuaded that if the system of giving these permissions to raise companies continues as it now exists my efforts to preserve and improve the discipline and efficiency of the army must be unavailing. I regard the whole system as an unmixed evil. No good has resulted from it at all commensurate with its bad effects. I would prefer to see it suppressed entirely, at the expense of losing the men who are rightfully brought into service by it, rather than lose the larger number that it draws from the army or renders unfit for a proper discharge of duty. If it must be continued, I strongly advise that all such grants of authority be coupled with the condition that if any man already in service be found in the new command the commissions of all the officers of the latter shall be annulled and themselves put as privates in the organization to which such man may belong, irrespective of their alleged ignorance that the man could not properly be enlisted by them. It is by this plea that they escape responsibility for their conduct, and no measure less stringent will force them to abstain from improper measures to procure recruits, or cause them to give the subject the necessary attention to prevent their agents from doing so. I also advise that the same penalties be attached to all officers in whose commands such men now may be who can be proved to have enlisted them or allowed them to enlist with knowledge that they were already in service, or who shall not return or account satisfactorily for them within a certain time after a demand shall be made for them.

In the present instance I earnestly request that the authority given to Lieutenant Carter be revoked. It takes 3 men from this army, where they are much needed, and if it takes no more, Lieutenant Carter will contradict the invariable experience of such efforts.

So strong is my conviction on this subject that I beg, if no other means can be found to supply General Jones with a battery of horse artillery, and he is in actual want of one, that a company be taken from the artillery of this army for his use. I shall then at least know to what extent it has been weakened, and nothing will have been done to encourage dissatisfaction and desertion.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 28, 1864.

Mr. S[HEPHERD]:

Submit to me the papers on which Lieutenant Carter's authority was granted. Retain this letter by you that I may estop such applications, &c.

J. A. S.

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PETERSBURG, VA., *January* 25, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

The following dispatch just received:

FORT BOYKIN, *January* 25, 1864.

Capt. N. W. SMALL,
*Signal Officer:*

Four gun-boats passed up the river at about 1 p. m. Causey reports an advance from Old Point and Newport News toward Williamsburg and Yorktown.

MILLIGAN,
*Major.*

The gun-boats are now reported opposite Lower Brandon, 10 a. m. If the two gun-boats were below the obstructions, as promised by the Secretary of the Navy, it would be worth 5,000 men to us.

GEO. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., January* 25, 1864.

General G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

General Longstreet is urgent for pontoon train to be sent to him immediately. The only one that can be forwarded is that sent you recently. Can you possibly dispense with it?

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 20. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, January* 25, 1864.

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XXXVI. Colonel Swanson's regiment of Clanton's brigade will proceed forthwith to the Army of Northern Virginia, taking the route by railroad via Greensborough, N. C., and Danville, Va.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, January 26, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 20th instant, inclosing the following resolution, adopted by the House of Representatives on the 15th instant, viz:

> *Resolved*, That the Secretary of War be requested to inform this House by what authority Generals Sam. Jones and Imboden have prohibited the transportation of food from the military districts in which they are located to the city of Richmond, for private use and consumption.

Very respectfully,

A. R. LAMAR,
*Clerk.*

You direct me to forward the report required. In reply I have the honor to state that I have not prohibited the transportation of food from this military department to the city of Richmond for private use and consumption. On the contrary, I have given all the aid in my power to facilitate the transportation of food for purposes specified in the resolution.

I have endeavored to prevent speculators and extortioners, whose chief aims in life seem to be to shun service and enrich themselves by preying upon the necessities of better men, from stripping this department of the food necessary for the support of the army. To that end I have addressed letters to Thomas H. Ellis, president of the James River and Kanawha Canal, and R. L. Owen, president of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, extracts from which, together with Mr. Owen's advertisement in a Lynchburg paper, are herewith forwarded, marked A, B, and C.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

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DUBLIN, *January 26*, 1864.

Col. M. J. FERGUSON,
*Commanding Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry:*

COLONEL: The major-general commanding has received your report of the 13th instant, and directs me to say that he is gratified at your success. He desires you to remain as long as you can, with safety to your command, in that section of country where you now are. Collect all the information you can as to the supply of beef-cattle, hogs, and bacon in that part of Virginia and the counties bordering on the Big and Little Sandy, and the practicability of procuring and bringing out the same. The general commanding especially desires you to do all in your power to conciliate the people, and induce them to give us their aid. Be particularly careful, therefore, to maintain strict discipline, and restrain your men from depredations upon the people who are loyal or have so far remained neutral. Do not fail to send within our lines all the beef-cattle and hogs you can secure. It is deemed probable that our friends in that country may be induced to drive within our lines their cattle, hogs, and sheep, provided they receive payment in Virginia money or such other funds as are

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* Not found, but on same subject see Vol. XXIX, Part II, pp. 911-913.

current among them. You may assure any persons disposed to do this that they will be paid in Virginia funds more than the market price in that section, with a liberal allowance for the expense and labor of bringing them out. Keep the general commanding informed of your movements, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Orange Court-House, January 27,* 1864.

Mr. PRESIDENT:

I have not been unmindful of your request, expressed in your letter of the 16th instant,* desiring my opinion in reference to the reorganization of the troops in West Virginia. It is the difficulty of this subject and the importance of selecting a proper commander that has caused my silence. There are many able officers in this army, and many, I have no doubt, capable of administering that department, could I designate them. All have done well in their present positions, but to send them to a new and difficult field would be an experiment. But so important do I consider the maintenance of Western Virginia to the successful conduct of the war that I will relinquish any of them you may select for its command, though I do not know where to replace them. A change, I think, is necessary, both for the sake of the officers in that department and the interests of the country. The duties might be more unsuitable to the health of General Ewell than his present position. I have also great confidence in the ability of Generals Early, Rodes, Edward Johnson, and Wilcox. Of the brigadiers, I think General Gordon, of Alabama, one of the best. I do not know to what duty General Buckner is assigned, but of the officers that have been serving in that department I think General Ransom is the most prominent. If any of these officers be selected, and they should not answer, they should be removed and another tried.

If a proper man can be found I think it would be better to include the Shenandoah Valley in his command, in order that he might concentrate the troops where most necessary. A better discipline should be instituted among the troops themselves. Their local character should be abolished by law, all deserters from other armies be returned to their proper commands, and all authority to organize companies, either within or without the enemy's lines, be revoked. This authority causes desertion from the general service. Men go within the enemy's lines, either really or nominally, with the connivance or invitation of the officers, to enter these organizations. In a word, the system should be such as to organize the men of the country for its defense, and not for their convenience or the benefit of certain individuals. Unless this is done the resources of that country will be lost to us, both its mineral wealth and provisions. The first step to improvement is an energetic, active commander, and no time should be lost in his selection.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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*See G. W. C. Lee to R. E. Lee, p. 1091.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 28, 1864.

General A. ELZEY,
*Richmond:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of last night mentions having received reliable information from Ivor Station of the movements of the enemy from Newport News toward Williamsburg and of the landing of troops at Yorktown.

I do not see how men in that quarter can know what is going on north of James River, except from hearsay or reports of citizens, which are very uncertain. The force in that quarter must be very small and inefficient. As early as the 21st instant a scout from Hampton's division reported that three regiments negro infantry landed at Yorktown on the preceding Monday, and one regiment negro infantry and one regiment white cavalry landed at Gloucester Point on the 20th; that a great many of their men had gone off on furlough; that there was no truth in the report of their advancing some days previous, and that he was closely watching them. I have not heard from him since. You must keep men right in the front of the enemy, never losing sight of them, if you wish to know what they are doing. Your troops must be vigilant and bold, retarding any advance, and forcing them to discover their force, then you can make arrangements to oppose them.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 28, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: The interference of the War Department with the strong arm of authority is absolutely necessary to secure to the regiments of this command from South Carolina and Georgia the recruits which they imperatively need.

While regiments serving within the limits of those States are swelling their numbers to over 1,000 each, their gallant comrades in Virginia, equally entitled to the benefits of the conscript law, are dwindling to a mere handful for want of recruits. I understand that some steps have been taken to correct this evil, but unless they are vigorous and immediate no good will result.

I recommend that Brigadier-General Butler, now convalescent from his wounds in South Carolina, be empowered and directed without delay to inspect those regiments, so much beyond the proper proportion, and take out from their numbers by lot or other fair process a sufficient number to increase the First and Second South Carolina Cavalry Regiments, now on duty with this command, to the proper proportions, and that Major King, now on leave of absence in Georgia, be directed to do the same with reference to the Georgia commands in this corps and the cavalry regiments serving in that State; these two officers to organize these recruits and have them properly conducted to their new commands.

The Georgia commands in this corps consist of the Cobb Legion and Phillips Legion Cavalry.

Immediate action in this matter is necessary, and provision should also be made to enable such as desire to join these commands to do so without unnecessary harassment or inconvenience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*January* 28, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: In order to maintain an efficient and adequate cavalry force in this army, it is necessary that section 3, paragraph II, General Orders, No. 7, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, be so modified as to allow volunteers or conscripts to be assigned to any company of cavalry which may not have on its rolls more than 100 privates, instead of the minimum of 64.

It is absolutely indispensable to discriminate thus in favor of the cavalry, as the class of persons able to buy horses at the present exorbitant rates is extremely limited, thus rendering difficult the increase of this indispensable arm of service.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 10. } *January* 28, 1864.

In order to afford every facility and encouragement to the farmers to prepare for planting the coming season, the general commanding directs that particular attention be given to the preservation of the fencing and the closing of roads through fields which the owners may desire to cultivate. The gaps in the inclosures of such fields which have been made by the army will be closed by the nearest command, and passage across them by persons mounted or on foot and by vehicles will be strictly prohibited. Travel will be confined to the regular roads of the country as far as practicable.

Corps and division commanders will see to the strict enforcement of this order, and give to farmers in their vicinity all the assistance in their power.

The general commanding is confident that it is only necessary to remind the army of the importance of a supply of provisions for its use, and that of the people, to insure a cheerful compliance by all.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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JANUARY 29, 1864.

Col. W. H. STEVENS,
*Chief of Construction, Dept. of Northern Virginia:*

COLONEL: The honorable Secretary of War has referred to this bureau the various communications received from the Secretary of the Navy in reference to the obstructions placed in James River between the lower and the pontoon bridge, and has directed me to call upon you for a report upon the questions raised in the correspondence forwarded by the Hon. S. R. Mallory.

This correspondence consists of letters from the pilots, George Young and Edward Moore, C. S. Navy, to Commodore F. Forrest, flag officer, and of a letter from Commodore Forrest transmitting the same to the Secretary of the Navy.

Mr. Young, in complaining of the obstructions above mentioned, states:

First. That the piles are cut off so low that at high water or in a slight freshet it is impossible to discover the opening left for the passage of vessels.

Second. That in consequence of a sunken wreck left in the main channel, a short distance above the obstructions, vessels of the larger size are compelled to make a difficult and dangerous circuit in approaching the draw; and

Third. That since the width of the draw is but scant 58 feet, no sufficient provision has been made for the passage through the obstructions of the iron-clads Virginia, Patrick Henry, &c.

Mr. Moore, pilot, C. S. Navy, repeats the statements of Mr. Young, and recommends—

> That one of the vessels that were sunk in the former barricade at that point be removed, which would make a gap which could be approached by a direct course, avoiding sets of tides and all other obstacles, and leaving passway in mid-channel.

Commodore Forrest, in transmitting these communications to the Secretary of War, declares—

> That he can perceive no necessity for any obstructions in the river above Drewry's Bluff, since it is clear that if the enemy can pass beyond that fortification with their iron-clads they can readily shell the city.

he laboring under a mistake as to distance, which has since been explained to and admitted by him.

In referring these communications to the Secretary of War, Mr. Mallory suggests "that the obstructions be placed in accordance with the views expressed by the pilots," and the Secretary has accordingly directed me to call upon you for a report in regard to the present condition of the obstructions and the propriety of making the proposed alterations.

In another letter, which has also been referred to this bureau, the Secretary of the Navy represents the extreme importance of providing for the passage of the iron-clads through the obstructions, and upon this the honorable Secretary of War has indorsed, "To Engineer Bureau, for consideration. I really wish some suitable arrangement could be made to let these iron-clads out without endangering the obstructions." The question is one of importance, and I am desirous of obtaining your views upon the subject.

Yours, very respectfully,

A. L. RIVES,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. KEMPER:

GENERAL: I have read with great interest your letter of the 22d instant. Its subject is a matter of constant anxiety and considera-

tion with me. I agree with you in believing that the only safe plan for supporting the army is by calling out the full resources of the country, and I am glad to hear that you think these resources ample. The great difficulty is as to the best mode of making them available. Wholesale impressments will give us present relief, but I fear it will injure our future supplies. It will cause concealment and waste, and deter many farmers from exerting all their efforts in producing full and proper crops. Already I hear of land in Virginia lying idle from this cause. It should be made the interest of every one to labor and contribute all he can, and the proper regulation of the currency will best effect this object. But I think the present law and orders on the subject should be so modified as to authorize the Government to impress when necessary a certain proportion of everything produced in the country, this proportion to depend upon the wants of the Government. It should be made equal and as light as possible, and every care taken to deprive the execution of the measure of all harshness.

If it requires all the meat in the country to support the army, it should be had, and I believe this could be accomplished by not only showing its necessity, but that all equally contribute, and that it was faithfully applied. Great dissatisfaction is now occasioned by the conduct of the agents, and the belief that much of what is collected for the Government is applied to the support of post garrisons and the families of those there stationed, and that it does not reach the armies in the field. Much could be done, I think, by judicious agents in whom the people have confidence, and it was with this view that I desired you to take charge of the collection of supplies in Virginia.

The other subject referred to in your letter, I believe, has received the attention of Congress and the Department. The prevention of men called into service selecting local organizations, fixed batteries, &c., so as to avoid service in the field, is very beneficial; and the authority given to the President to change a judge from one military court to another, and to commanding officers to assign officers of the army to duty on those courts when necessary, will be attended with good results.

The bill empowering commanding officers when separated from the army to call general courts-martial is also good. I think your proposition to empower all general officers to constitute general courts-martial, while operating with an army, would create confusion and embarrassment. But if they were authorized to order courts-martial in their brigades or divisions to take cognizance of the class of offenses referred by the Articles of War to garrison or regimental courts-martial it would be beneficial. When separated from the army, under this new bill, should it pass, they order general courts-martial.

You need not apologize for writing to me on any subject. I only wish I could do anything to advance the good of the service or feel that my views sufficiently approximated the truth to make them of value.

Hoping that you will be able to join the army at the beginning of the campaign, I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

HEADQUARTERS C. S. FORCES,
*Mount Jackson, January 29, 1864—7 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding Valley District:*

GENERAL: I am directed by General Imboden to send you the inclosed report of Lieutenant Thomson, Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. All is quiet in the lower valley.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. B. BERKELEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

NEW MARKET, VA., *January 29, 1864.*

General J. D. IMBODEN:

GENERAL: Ten days since a scout of 4 men, commanded by Lieut. Bush C. Washington, Company B, Twelfth Virginia Cavalry, was ordered by Brigadier-General Rosser to proceed to the counties of Jefferson, Berkeley, and Clarke, to obtain information, &c. I have the honor to report the following as the result of said scout, viz:

*At Charlestown.*—Artillery, four guns. Infantry: Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment, 325 men, Colonel Ballier commanding. Cavalry: First New York, 400, Major Quinn commanding; Twenty-fifth [Twenty-first ?] New York, 600, made up of re-enlisted two-year infantry—very fine horses; First Connecticut, six companies, 200; Sixth Michigan, two companies, 75; and Second Maryland, one company, 30.

*At Halltown.*—Artillery, none. Infantry, three regiments (Fifteenth [?] and One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania and a New York regiment), Sedgwick's corps.

*At Harper's Ferry.*—Artillery, some; amount not known. Infantry, three regiments (Thirty-fourth Massachusetts, Tenth Maryland, and First [?] Pennsylvania). Cavalry, very small force, Sedgwick's corps. Cole and Means on Loudoun side.

*At Martinsburg.*—Artillery, seventeen guns. Cavalry, Averell's force, supposed to be about 3,000, and Fifth [?] Maryland, 400. Infantry, 6,000. A re-enforcement of five regiments arrived last Friday, which goes to make up the 6,000.

Lieutenant Washington was taken sick Wednesday night and had to be left in Clarke County. He ordered me to report information gained. Our horses are completely broken down, rendering it almost impossible to report in person. If you desire particular information as to the position of pickets, &c., I will be found at the camp of the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. It is on my own responsibility that I have reported to you. I thought it best to inform you of the position of affairs.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. S. THOMSON.
*Company B, Twelfth Virginia Cavalry.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, January 29, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
*Comdg. Army of Northern Va., Orange Court-House:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 21st instant is received. I am informed by persons who ought to know that there is a large stock of

cattle, hogs, and sheep in the border counties of Kentucky, which it is thought may be procured. I have directed Colonel Ferguson, of the Sixteenth Virginia Cavalry, who was in Wayne County on the 13th instant with his regiment, to procure all the information he can as to where cattle, hogs, &c., may be procured and the practicability of bringing them within our lines. I suggested to the War Department last winter that cattle, &c., might be procured from Kentucky by private individuals living in that State, if the Government would pay for them in Virginia or the funds current in that State, but, so far as I know, the attempt was not made. I think it very important that the attempt should be made now. I have conversed with graziers who have for years been purchasing cattle in East Kentucky, and they express great confidence that Kentuckians themselves would deliver a large number of cattle, hogs, sheep, &c., to us in Virginia if they were assured of being paid in Virginia funds at 5 or 6 cents per pound gross. I think the experiment worth trying, and it may be if you will recommend the experiment. The stock of sheep in this section of country is represented as unusually large, and I believe the stock of pork will be much larger than is generally supposed. Any information I may get on this subject which will be of interest to you I will communicate with pleasure.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA.
*Dublin, January 29, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjt. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I think it important that there should be an officer in the immediate command of that part of Virginia embraced in the Department of East Tennessee and designated as the District of Southwestern Virginia. Brigadier-General Preston having been relieved from command of that district, I ordered Brig. Gen. W. E. Jones, whose brigade was in that section of country, to assume the command, reporting direct to me.

Paragraph XXVII, Special Orders, No. 19, of the 23d instant, from your office, announces Lieutenant-General Longstreet as the commander of the Department of East Tennessee, but does not seem to embrace Southwestern Virginia, and the Secretary of War told me that he did not regard that district as under General Longstreet's command. Your order attaching that district to my command not having been revoked, I have thought it incumbent on me to continue to exercise control there.

Brigadier-General Jones informs me by letter, received this morning, that General Longstreet had ordered his brigade into East Tennessee. I have thought it proper to inform you of the order I gave Brigadier-General Jones, in order that if not approved it may be at once corrected, and to ask whether I am to continue to exercise control over the District of Southwestern Virginia. May I ask of you an early answer?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS,
*Orange Court-House, January* 30, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS, *President Confederate States:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: Report of a scout north of the Rappahannock gives movements of the enemy which generally precede an advance. Provisions are being brought up from Alexandria, troops are moved to the front, &c. I do not think it can be a general advance of their army, but may be intended to distract or to co-operate with the movement reported in contemplation from Yorktown. They are no doubt aware that troops have been sent from this army, and of its dispersed condition on account of the scarcity of provisions and forage, and may wish to strike a sudden blow. I have thought it proper to report these indications of some movement on the part of the enemy, as in the event of an advance up the Peninsula I might not be able to detach troops toward Richmond, and other preparations should be made. I think the two brigades that were sent to Charleston last fall, or their equivalent, might now be recalled. No serious movement having been made during the winter, it is hardly probable it will occur in the spring. A scout from north of the Potomac states that all the sea-going vessels in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore are being taken up for an expedition to start south on the 15th February, believed to be against Mobile. I think it more probable if true that it is intended for General Butler, who, it is also stated, is to be furnished with 50,000 men to advance up James River or south of it.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON, *Quartermaster-General, C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: I have sent two quartermasters over the ridge to purchase leather for the use of this army. The one in the lower valley reports that he has found 2,880 sides, all in the hands of original manufacturers except 220 sides. which are in the hands of speculators. The officer in the upper valley had only visited three tanneries when he wrote, and had only found 400 sides ready for use, but many were in course of preparation. Some of this leather could be bought at Government prices, though it was offered in exchange for rawhides. They asked as high, in some cases, as $10 a pound for upper and $7 for sole.

The chief quartermaster of the army brought me this morning a sample of the shoes recently sent from Richmond. One pair was of Richmond manufacture and another from Columbus, Ga. They were intended to be fair samples of each lot and were selected with that view. Neither could compare with the shoes made in this army. In the Richmond shoe the face of the leather was turned in, that is, the side of the skin next the animal was turned out, which is contrary to the practice of the best makers and contrary to the arrangement of nature. Without knowing the result of experiment in this matter, I should therefore think it wrong. The leather of the Columbus shoe was not half tanned and the shoe was badly made; the soles of both slight, and would not stand a week's march in mud and water.

If I could get leather I could set 500 shoemakers to work. The scraps would answer for repairs. I have the workmen and tools. Can you get for me the leather I have referred to above, or authorize the chief quartermaster of the army to do so? I am not in favor of exchanging hides for leather at the rates established by the schedule, viz, 45 cents for the hides and $2.80 for the leather. The old rule in Virginia, and I believe it is still practiced, was to receive one-half of the leather produced by the hides. I do not know whether we could exchange at that rate. The army is in great distress for shoes and clothes. Every inspection report painfully shows it—artillery, cavalry, and infantry. The requisitions sent in are unanswered.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
*Near Fredericksburg, January* 30, 1864.

Major MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: Acting under orders given by the general commanding by telegraph, I have prepared to move my command promptly to any point which may be threatened. Lieutenant Shinn sends information from the Peninsula that the enemy are preparing to move. As their movement has been delayed so long, they cannot meditate a surprise, but must intend a demonstration in some force. My opinion is that with an advance from Yorktown there will be a simultaneous one on the line held by me, with a view to concentrate a large force on the railroads. If this is done, the force at my disposal will be totally inadequate to make any successful resistance. Leaving men enough to keep up my picket-line, I will have not more than 700 to 800 mounted men. All the dismounted men, except those on duty, will be sent to Hanover Junction to re-enforce Col. Bradley Johnson if that point is threatened. I would suggest the propriety of placing a larger force until the emergency has passed on the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. A small force of infantry and artillery could protect this road against any sudden dash of the cavalry of the enemy, and would leave my command free to harass the enemy wherever it could best do so. If no attack is made on my line, I will, in the event of an advance on Richmond or the Junction, send all my dismounted men down by railroad, and then endeavor to gain the rear of the enemy with all the cavalry I can collect. Would it not be advisable to have the disbanded men of General Lee's division who are in this vicinity ordered to rendezvous at some point, so that they may be called out if necessary? I wish, too, that you would send the dismounted men of Gordon's brigade who are now at Orange Court-House to Hanover Junction at once. There are from 75 to 100 there, and their services would be useful at the Junction. But one battery is with me. To save time I have sent several telegraph dispatches direct to the general commanding, giving information.

Scouts have been sent to Stafford and Fauquier to obtain information there. No news has reached me this morning.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

JANUARY 30, 1864.

[General J. A. EARLY:]

GENERAL: I found the enemy in the mountain pass; about one regiment. After a brisk skirmish, I succeeded in driving him through. The road was heavily blockaded, and much time was occupied in removing it. The train knew of my presence, and as soon as I got over the mountain I moved down toward Williamsport to attack the train, knowing that it would countermarch. About 800 men were guarding it. I made a vigorous attack upon them, but owing to the convenience of the mountains I only succeeded in capturing about 15 or 20 prisoners (one major) and ninety-three wagons. I only succeeded in bringing off fifty-one. During the fight the mules of forty-two of the wagons were cut away by the enemy and got away. I will move upon Petersburg early to-morrow morning. I send the wagons back to you. They are loaded principally with commissary stores. Not a wagon escaped, and I would have captured the guard but they ran off to the mountains. My loss in killed and wounded was about 25 or 30. My men behaved most gallantly. Please let me know at what time you will reach Petersburg.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. L. ROSSER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *January* 31, 1864.

General J. E. B. STUART:

GENERAL: I have received General Lomax's dispatch of this morning, stating the enemy's cavalry had crossed Robertson River this morning before daylight. Endeavor to find them; defeat their object. Notify all parties in danger. Call upon Wickham and any infantry near their route if necessary.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*January* 31, 1864.

Hon. THOMAS J. FOSTER AND OTHERS:

GENTLEMEN: I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 26th instant, calling my attention to the resolutions of the Alabama Legislature, requesting the transfer of the Twenty-sixth Alabama Regiment to that State.

I have had occasion to present my views to the honorable Secretary of War upon the subject of these resolutions on the 5th of January. This regiment has done most excellent service and is worthy of any compliment which the State may bestow upon it. I do not see how the good of the service can be promoted by detaching this regiment, thus breaking up a veteran brigade which has just set the glorious example in this army of re-enlisting for the war. If it is proposed to send the regiment home to recruit and return to the same brigade, the same proposition is applicable to many other regiments which have undergone like hardships and been equally reduced in the same bloody conflicts. It is clear that this policy cannot be instituted in the army with the enemy in force in our front. I cannot recommend the transfer of this regiment, unless one equally good is sent beforehand to take its place.

If Colonel O'Neal desires duty in some other army I will interpose no objection. I regret that he feels that injustice has been done him here. I have a just appreciation of his gallantry and worth. I recommended another officer to the command of the brigade because I believed him better qualified to perform the duties of the position. General Rodes' whole division acted at Chancellorsville with distinguished gallantry, and that officer owes his promotion to General Jackson's observation of his skill and conduct, and you will see in my report of that battle that one of his dying messages to me was to the effect that General Rodes should be promoted major-general and his promotion should date from May 2. He has commanded his division with success and ability, and I am gratified to state that his division has re-enlisted for the war, Battle's brigade, of Alabama, having set the example. Instead of raising new brigades, I think it would be far better to recruit to the fullest number those veteran brigades whose whole conduct is worthy of the admiration of their countrymen.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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WILLIAMSPORT, *January* 31, 1864.

[General J. A. EARLY:]

GENERAL: The Yankees have all gone to New Creek. Greenland Gap is open. There are not many cattle in this country, and it will take some time to get them up and out. I will go down to Burlington to-morrow morning and will send Gilmor and McNeill across the mountain. I think I can be able to destroy the railroad at Patterson's Creek, but I fear that if I undertake it I will not be able to get out the cattle. You see that I will have to pass near New Creek, but this I think will induce them to run re-enforcements from Cumberland, and in that event I will attack Cumberland. I am uneasy about Averell. He will move out from Martinsburg, and I think will occupy Romney and make it very dangerous for me about the mouth of Patterson's Creek. If you will move a force to Romney I will be perfectly safe and will be able to do good service. I desire to break the railroad, and I also desire to get all the cattle in the country. I can deceive the enemy on my way down without trouble, and if nothing opposes me but infantry I can come out all right; but if Averell comes up, and I think we must expect him, and Romney is the place he will come to, you will have to keep him off, and I will ruin the railroad above. Please let me hear from you to-night. If you will move to Romney to-morrow, or even the next day, I will go to the railroad to-morrow night.

Most respectfully, yours, &c.,

T. L. ROSSER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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NARROWS, *January* 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES:

The enemy have advanced a force to Raleigh Court-House. It is estimated by some as a regiment and by others at 3,000 men. They scouted to Pack's Ferry yesterday. I will soon know all about them. I can hardly think that they meditate anything serious.

JNO. McCAUSLAND,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, January* 31, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

There are indications of another movement of the enemy from the Kanawha. A force was at Raleigh Court-House yesterday and scouted to Pack's Ferry. They were also examining obstructions from Lewisburg to Gauley. I think it highly probable these are only to engage my attention in front, whilst a cavalry force moves from the Kanawha through Tazewell, or from the north by Callaghan's. In either case it is very important to have troops on this railroad.

I again respectfully urge that General Wharton's brigade be ordered immediately within this department and on the railroad.

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

(Same, excepting last paragraph, to General Lee.)

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*Abstract from monthly return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, January* 31, 1864; *headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | | | |
| Staff | 14 | ..... | ..... | 14 | 19 | ..... |
| Early's division *a* | 309 | 3,604 | 3,604 | 4,708 | 9,320 | ..... |
| Johnson's division | 407 | 4,156 | 4,156 | 5,327 | 10,436 | ..... |
| Rodes' division *b* | 400 | 5,042 | 5,042 | 6,804 | 12,534 | ..... |
| Total | 1,130 | 12,802 | 12,802 | 16,848 | 32,309 | ..... |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | | | |
| Staff | 14 | ..... | ..... | 14 | 17 | ..... |
| Anderson's division | 443 | 5,577 | 5,577 | 6,852 | 12,272 | ..... |
| Heth's division *c* | 276 | 4,272 | 4,272 | 5,184 | 8,256 | ..... |
| Wilcox's division *d* | 370 | 4,896 | 4,896 | 6,012 | 9,161 | ..... |
| Total | 1,103 | 14,745 | 14,745 | 18,062 | 29,706 | ..... |
| Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: | | | | | | |
| Staff | 12 | ..... | ..... | 12 | 14 | ..... |
| Hampton's division *e* | 166 | 2,198 | 2,198 | 2,858 | 5,578 | ..... |
| Fitzhugh Lee's division *f* | 80 | 1,162 | 1,162 | 1,388 | 3,015 | ..... |
| Total | 258 | 3,360 | 3,360 | 4,258 | 8,607 | ..... |
| Artillery Reserve, &c., Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 17 | 339 | 339 | 396 | 562 | 14 |
| Second Army Corps | 78 | 1,348 | 1,348 | 1,668 | 2,540 | 74 |
| Third Army Corps | 95 | 1,889 | 1,889 | 2,244 | 3,305 | 79 |
| Cavalry Corps | 16 | 266 | 266 | 308 | 476 | 16 |
| Total | 206 | 3,842 | 3,842 | 4,616 | 6,883 | 183 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | | | |
| Valley District *g* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Maryland Line | 47 | 706 | 706 | 844 | 1,318 | 7 |
| Provost guard | 14 | 281 | 281 | 361 | 628 | ..... |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 7 | 113 | 113 | 138 | 221 | ..... |
| Total | 68 | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,343 | 2,167 | 7 |
| Grand total | 2,765 | 35,849 | 35,849 | 45,127 | 79,672 | 190 |

*a* Hoke's brigade detached.
*b* Twelfth and Twenty-first Georgia and Forty-third North Carolina not reported.
*c* Walker's brigade detached.
*d* Thomas' brigade detached.
*e* Rosser's brigade not reported; two regiments of Gordon's brigade not reported.
*f* Lee's brigade and three regiments of Wickham's brigade not reported.
*g* Not reported.

*Abstract from return of the Department of Western Virginia, Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding, for the month of January, 1864; headquarters Dublin Depot, W. Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| General staff | 13 | ..... | ..... | 13 | 18 | ..... |
| Infantry, Ransom's division: | | | | | | |
| Staff | 3 | ..... | ..... | 3 | 7 | ..... |
| Wharton's brigade | 48 | 725 | 725 | 892 | 1,365 | ..... |
| A. E. Jackson's brigade *a* | 44 | 275 | 275 | 397 | 769 | ..... |
| Echols' brigade | 68 | 1,193 | 1,193 | 1,416 | 2,293 | ..... |
| McCausland's brigade *b* | 79 | 1,145 | 1,145 | 1,364 | 2,196 | ..... |
| 45th Virginia *c* | 35 | 626 | 626 | 702 | 923 | ..... |
| Hart's company of engineer troops | 2 | 45 | 45 | 53 | 69 | ..... |
| Total infantry | 279 | 4,009 | 4,009 | 4,827 | 7,622 | ..... |
| Cavalry, Ransom's division: | | | | | | |
| Jones' brigade *d* | 111 | 1,193 | 1,193 | 1,477 | 3,490 | ..... |
| Williams' brigade *e* | 98 | 788 | 786 | 1,090 | 2,230 | ..... |
| 14th Virginia Cavalry *f* | 29 | 424 | 424 | 509 | 792 | ..... |
| 16th Virginia Cavalry *g* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 17th Virginia Cavalry *h* | 31 | 305 | 305 | 379 | 568 | ..... |
| W. L. Jackson's brigade | 72 | 625 | 625 | 772 | 1,615 | ..... |
| 22d Regiment Virginia Cavalry *i* | 28 | 354 | 354 | 410 | 820 | ..... |
| 37th Virginia Battalion Cavalry, Company H *j* | 3 | 61 | 61 | 68 | 108 | ..... |
| Total cavalry | 372 | 3,750 | 3,748 | 4,705 | 9,623 | ..... |
| Artillery with Ransom's division, King's battalion *k* | 13 | 333 | 333 | 373 | 561 | 17 |
| Chapman's battery | 3 | 112 | 112 | 127 | 156 | ..... |
| Bryan's battery | 3 | 49 | 49 | 54 | 155 | 6 |
| Lurty's battery | 2 | 52 | 52 | 58 | 80 | ..... |
| McClung's battery | 3 | 53 | 53 | 48 | 53 | ..... |
| Burroughs' battery | 3 | 54 | 54 | 57 | 79 | ..... |
| Levi's battery | 1 | 32 | 32 | 34 | 64 | ..... |
| Botetourt Artillery | 4 | 95 | 95 | 107 | 174 | ..... |
| Jackson's Horse Artillery | 3 | 40 | 40 | 46 | 59 | 2 |
| Total | 35 | 810 | 810 | 904 | 1,381 | 25 |
| Grand total | 699 | 8,569 | 8,567 | 10,449 | 18,644 | 25 |

*a* On detached service in East Tennessee, by order of Lieutenant-General Longstreet.
*b* Beckley's regiment (aggregate 520) not heretofore reported.
*c* At Saltville.
*d* In front, acting under orders of Lieutenant-General Longstreet; last return used.
*e* One or two companies on this return not heretofore reported.
*f* On detached service with Echols' brigade.
*g* On raid; no report received; not included.
*h* On detached service with McCausland's brigade.
*i* One company reported on detached service.
*j* On detached service as couriers at Dublin and on courier-line; not heretofore reported.
*k* McClung's battery (aggregate 53) and Burroughs' battery (aggregate 78) on detached service at Saltville, and reported separately.

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## *Organization of troops in the Department of Western Virginia, commanded by Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, January, 1864.*

RANSOM'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. GABRIEL C. WHARTON.

*Wharton's Brigade.*

Col. AUGUSTUS FORSBERG.

45th Virginia.*
51st Virginia, Lieut. Col. John P. Wolfe.
30th Virginia Battalion Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. J. Lyle Clarke.

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*On detached service at Saltville.

*Jones' Cavalry Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM E. JONES.

8th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Alphonso F. Cook.
21st Virginia, Capt. W. H. Balthis.
27th Virginia Battalion, Capt. John B. Thompson.
34th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Vinson A. Witcher.
36th Virginia Battalion, Capt. C. T. Smith.
37th Virginia Battalion, Maj. James R. Claiborne.

*Jackson's Brigade.**

Brig. Gen. ALFRED E. JACKSON.

Thomas' North Carolina Regiment, Lieut. Col. James R. Love.
Walker's North Carolina Battalion, Maj. James A. McKamy.

*Williams' Cavalry Brigade.*

Col. JAMES E. CARTER.

16th Georgia Battalion, Lieut. Col. S. J. Winn.
4th Kentucky, Maj. Nathan Parker.
May's Kentucky Regiment, Lieut. Col. Edwin Trimble.
1st Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Onslow Bean.
64th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Auburn L. Pridemore.

*King's Artillery Battalion.*

Capt. GEORGE S. DAVIDSON.

Davidson's (Virginia) battery, Lieut. John T. Johnson
Lowry's (Virginia) battery, Lieut. J. H. Pence.
Otey (Virginia) Battery, Capt. David N. Walker.
Ringgold (Virginia) Battery, Capt. Crispin Dickenson.

DETACHED BRIGADES, &C.

*Echols' Brigade.*

Col. GEORGE S. PATTON.

22d Virginia.†
23d Virginia Battalion.†
26th Virginia Battalion.†
Partisan Rangers (two companies).†
Chapman's (Virginia) battery.†

*Albert G. Jenkins' Brigade.*‡

14th Virginia Cavalry,§ Col. James Cochran.
16th Virginia Cavalry,‖ Col. Milton J. Ferguson.
17th Virginia Cavalry,¶ Maj. Frederick F. Smith.

*McCausland's Brigade.*

Col. JOHN MCCAUSLAND.

36th Virginia, Maj. Thomas Smith.
60th Virginia, Col. Beuhring H. Jones.
Beckley's (Virginia) Battalion, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Beckley.
Bryan's (Virginia) battery.†

*Jackson's Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM L. JACKSON.

19th Virginia Cavalry, Lieut. Col. William P. Thompson.
20th Virginia Cavalry, Col. William W. Arnett.
Seven detached companies.†
Lurty's (Virginia) battery.†

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* On detached service in East Tennessee.
† Names of commanders not given.
‡ On detached service with different commands.
§ With Echols' brigade.
‖ Part in Tazewell County; part on raid to Wayne County.
¶ With McCausland's brigade.

*Unattached.*

22d Virginia Cavalry, Col. Henry S. Bowen.

*Artillery.*

Burroughs' (Tennessee) battery.*
Levi's (Virginia) battery.*
McClung's (Tennessee) battery.*
Botetourt (Virginia) Artillery,† Lieut. Francis G. Obenchain.
Jackson's (Virginia) Horse Artillery,‡ Lieut. Randolph H. Blain.

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*Abstract from return of the Department of the Cape Fear, Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding, January* 31. 1864; *headquarters Wilmington, N. C.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| General staff | 10 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 14 |
| Post of Wilmington | 9 | ..... | ..... | 9 | 10 |
| Martin's brigade | 67 | 1,152 | 1,210 | 1,369 | 3,884 |
| Engineer troops | 1 | 72 | 75 | 88 | 101 |
| Signal corps | 2 | 38 | 38 | 40 | 52 |
| Heavy artillery | 132 | 2,379 | 2,941 | 3,376 | 4,317 |
| Light artillery | 34 | 696 | 755 | 828 | 947 |
| Cavalry | 26 | 381 | 409 | 458 | 550 |
| Total | 281 | 4,720 | 5,430 | 6,180 | 9,875 |

*Organization of troops in the Department of the Cape Fear, Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding, January* 31, 1864.

*Martin's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JAMES G. MARTIN.

17th North Carolina, Col. William F. Martin.
42d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John E. Brown.
50th North Carolina, Col. George Wortham.
66th North Carolina, Col. Alexander D. Moore.

*Heavy Artillery.*

Forts Campbell and Holmes, Col. John J. Hedrick.
Fort Caswell, Col. T. M. Jones.
Fort Fisher, Col. William Lamb.
Wilmington, Col. George A. Cunningham.

*Cavalry.*

7th Confederate (three companies),
5th North Carolina (one company),
5th South Carolina (two companies),
} Col. George Jackson.

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* At Saltville.
† At New River bridge.
‡ At Walker's Creek, Pulaski County, Va.

*Light Artillery.*

3d North Carolina Battalion, Battery A, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis.
3d North Carolina Battalion, Battery B, Capt. William Badham, jr.
13th North Carolina Battalion, Battery A, Capt. Lewis H. Webb.
13th North Carolina Battalion, Battery D, Capt. Zachariah T. Adams.
Boggs' (Virginia) Battalion.
Young's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Edward R. Young.
Paris' (Virginia) battery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.
Wilmington (North Carolina) Horse Artillery, Capt. Thomas J. Southerland.

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HEADQUARTERS PICKET,
*February* 1, 1864—2 p. m.

[General J. D. IMBODEN:]

GENERAL: I sent a man some two hours ago to report to you the presence of the enemy at Strasburg. I have a report from two reliable men, who have just come in from that place, that they are about 1,000 strong, with four pieces of artillery. They are reported encamped about 1 mile from the town, on the Capon Springs road. It is supposed by Mr. Snodgrass, a scout detailed by General Rosser, to be Averell's force. They reached Strasburg soon after day, where they fed before going into camp. Mr. Snodgrass reports the enemy have been largely re-enforced in the lower valley. Some of the citizens reported to Mr. Snodgrass that Colonel Thomas' brigade, of Kilpatrick's division, was along (doubtful). I have advanced my vedettes and sent forward small scouting parties.

Your obedient servant,

T. STURGIS DAVIS,
*Captain, Commanding.*

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STRASBURG, *February* 1, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. D. IMBODEN,
*Commanding Valley District:*

GENERAL: The force here this morning was part of Averell's command. They started in the direction of Wardensville, and left the impression that they were after Rosser. They had four pieces of artillery and two ambulances with them. They had about 400 men with them, not more, including the First and Second Virginia, commanded by a man by the name of Thompson. I will follow on their tracks and dispatch you.

Your obedient servant,

T. STURGIS DAVIS,
*Commanding Outpost.*

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BURLINGTON, *February* 1, 1864.

[General J. A. EARLY:]

GENERAL: I found a small force of cavalry here this morning when I arrived. They ran in direction of New Creek, blockading the road through the mountains. I believe I am getting all the cows, sheep, &c.; some will not amount to much. I am about starting on down toward Cumberland; will sweep all the country right and left and bring everything out. I will return by way of Moorefield, reaching there on the 3d or 4th. Citizens report Averell moving up the valley, but they don't know anything about it. It

was very difficult to induce McNeill across the mountains, and I think he will do nothing after all. If you wish to communicate with me do so by the road upon which this courier will ride.

Most respectfully, yours,

T. L. ROSSER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.
*February* 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. JONES, *Comdg. Department of Western Virginia:*

GENERAL: The tithe collector for the eleventh Congressional district of Virginia has forwarded to Col. Larkin Smith, the chief tithe collector, a complaint of the action of Col. W. L. Jackson's command in collecting the tithes in Rockbridge County. Colonel Smith has sent the paper to me. I think it would be well for Colonel Jackson to forage his command farther west, and as far from the lines of railway as possible, so as to eat up the forage not accessible otherwise. He is now drawing on the resources of this army, and it is a very difficult matter to get even a small supply for our animals. It is very important also that none but specially authorized quartermasters and commissaries collect this tax in kind. All other persons should be sent to the depots of the tax in kind for supplies.

I am, very respectfully. your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *February* 1, 1864.

Major MCCLELLAN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: On my return I proposed to General Gordon to place a regiment on the plank road for picket duty, and he is to let me know to-day if he can do this. His answer shall be telegraphed to you. The other brigade has not been moved, owing to the rumored advance of the enemy from the Peninsula. I shall be compelled to move it, however, as the supply of forage within reach is exhausted, and the railroad furnishes very little. Only one shipment came last week, and none is expected till Tuesday, while in the mean time a part of the command has none. I sent Captain Trezevant to make an investigation of the country below here, and he reports that it will be necessary to move 60 miles to procure forage. Shall Butler's brigade be moved that distance? It is absolutely necessary to make a change, for the decreased strength of this brigade makes me fear that it will be unfit for duty at the opening of the campaign. I inclose a paper* showing the alarming decrease in this command, which, if not promptly remedied, will soon dismount every man in it. I call the attention of the major-general commanding to this unfortunate condition of affairs, in the hope that he may be able to suggest a remedy. Within the last twelve months upward of 2,000 horses have been brought on to this brigade, besides those which were captured, and now not 500 men can be mounted on serviceable horses.

I am, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. FORCES,
*Mount Jackson, February 2, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY:

GENERAL: The foregoing [following] dispatch is from a gentleman well known to me, and of the highest respectability. I inclose you three dispatches* from my outposts yesterday and last night. These convey all the reliable information I have.

Yours, respectfully,

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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FEBRUARY 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General IMBODEN:

GENERAL: You may have the information ere this reaches you, but I find that 3,500 (an estimate made on the spot) Yankees (mounted), with four pieces of artillery, passed through Winchester last night in the direction of Romney. They may have taken the Moorefield grade. The estimate formed by persons in Winchester of the train varied; some say that at least 100 in all passed. Excuse haste and a bad pen. I had the pleasure of having you with me a few moments once, during the high waters in July last.

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HEADQUARTERS, *February 2, 1864.*

General SAMUEL JONES,
*Commanding, &c.:*

I have received your dispatch of the 31st ultimo, reporting indications of another advance of the enemy from the Kanawha, and your opinion that there should be some troops on the railroad. I have no troops to send. The facts had better be reported to the Secretary of War, as your department is beyond the limits of my command. General Averell, by the last reports of scouts in the valley, was at Martinsburg, with his cavalry. I think it probable, however, from the success that has hitherto attended his expeditions, that whenever the weather permits they will be renewed. Every preparation ought now to be made to resist them. The main cause of his success appears to me at this distance to be owing to the terror with which he has inspired the troops. As soon as his approach is announced his progress is neither retarded nor watched.

A body of select troops should remain constantly in his front, obstructing his advance and reporting his route, that troops might be concentrated at the desired point. I know the difficulty of guarding a long line. You cannot have sufficient force at every vulnerable point, whereas the enemy can select whatever point he pleases. But I think the main passes through the mountains could be so fortified as to be held by a small force, and the minor ones so obstructed as to greatly embarrass their passage. If the home guards or local organizations could be got to hold the fortified passes, it would leave all your regular force free to move where necessary. But if you could make your arrangements such as to enable you to attack them at some vulnerable point and throw them on the defensive it would lighten your labor exceedingly.

I have sent Captain Howard, of the engineers of this army, to examine the routes through the Alleghany range south of Staunton.

* Not found as inclosures; but see two dispatches from Davis to Imboden, p. 1139.

He will be joined by some young officers who have been occupied in that country for some time, and I hope a serviceable map of the roads, &c., can be formed by the spring, which may aid in future operations. I would recommend, if not already done, that similar examinations on the ranges west be made. I would recommend also that the people be organized for the defense of the country; that all subject to military duty be brought into the regular service, and that existing organizations be filled rather than new ones created; that all deserters be sent to their proper commands and all cowards punished. I wish I could spare you some troops or aid you in any way, but the enemy in my front is active and increasing and I require all I have.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., February 2, 1864.*

Hon. J. A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War:*

I respectfully submit copies of the correspondence of General W. H. C. Whiting, relative to the defenses of Wilmington, N. C.,* prepared with a view to a response to the accompanying resolution of the House of Representatives of the 31st December, 1863. It embraces letters to the Secretary of War, Adjutant and Inspector General, and superior officers, Generals Hill and Longstreet, from the 28th January to the 21st December, 1863.

One important communication, which was inclosed in the note of March 19, 1863 (p. 12), is not in the Department. It consisted of a description of the defenses of Wilmington, and was accompanied by maps. This "memoir," as General Whiting called it, was referred by you to the President on the 23d of March, 1863, and I do not find that it has been returned. I suppose, and in this Mr. Harrison concurs, that the President may have desired to keep it by him for reference. I have twice telegraphed to General Whiting requesting a copy of it, once near two weeks and again a week ago, but have not heard from him. With this explanation I submit the copy as it is.

Respectfully,

R. G. H. KEAN,
*Chief of Bureau of War.*

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MILL CREEK, *February 2, 1864.*

[General J. A. EARLY:]

GENERAL: I will be in camp to-morrow morning. I destroyed three important bridges on the railroad this morning—the Patterson's Creek, the bridge over the Potomac, and the canal bridge. Captured 40 prisoners, and have sent, since I left you, 800 cows and 300 or 400 sheep to the rear.

Most respectfully,

T. L. ROSSER,
*Brigadier-General.*

P. S.—Averell or some other man has been after me all day. The regiment left in the gap has been fighting him.

T. L. R.

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* Not found as inclosures.

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 3, 1864.

Major MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: Captain Sandy, assistant quartermaster, reported to me yesterday, having received instructions to bring twenty wagons up. He has been employed in hauling supplies from the counties below me, and he reports but little forage to be had. I inclose a memorandum from him. I have ordered him to make a depot at Lloyd's, and have suggested to General Young to make his camp near that point. As there are no further indications of an advance of the enemy from the Peninsula, I think this brigade had better move at once, but I shall await your reply by telegraph before giving orders that this should be done. The Fifth North Carolina will be sent home in a few days. General Gordon has determined to establish his picket force on the plank road, and Major Neal has gone up to Orange Court-House to make the necessary arrangements with Major Harman. I will leave General Gordon where he now is, near Milford, and General Young will keep up his present picket-line. Every effort shall be made to procure supplies so as to recruit the horses.

I am, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 4, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I think that Lloyd's is too far from the picket-line, being over 40 miles from Fredericksburg, and if the commanding general concurs with me in this opinion I will order this brigade to be established at some intermediate point. I have just sent General Hampton five additional wagons. A few days ago I sent him four teams and two wagons.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 4, 1864.

General Hampton telegraphs that General Elzey wishes him to move toward Hanover, as there is now no doubt in his mind that Richmond is to be attacked from the Peninsula. Until this is ascertained, of which I am not so certain, General H. had better [remain] within reach of Hanover Court-House, and his depot had better not be so exposed as it would be at Lloyd's; but he must establish himself where he can get supplies.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Inclosure.]

FEBRUARY 2, 1864.

Having been engaged in hauling forage from the counties of Hanover, New Kent, King William, King and Queen, and Essex, I am satisfied forage is scarce, long forage particularly. There is yet some corn that can be bought, together with the tithes or tax in kind, is about all that can be obtained, I think.

PHILIP A. SANDY,
*Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.*

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
*Orange Court-House, February 3, 1864.*

His Excelleny JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: The approach of spring causes me to consider with anxiety the probable action of the enemy, and the possible operations of ours in the ensuing campaign. If we could take the initiative and fall upon them unexpectedly we might derange their plans and embarrass them the whole summer. There are only two points east of the Mississippi where it now appears this could be done. If Longstreet could be strengthened or given greater mobility than he now possesses, he might penetrate into Kentucky, where he could support himself, cut Grant's communications, so as to compel him at least to detach from Johnston's front and enable him to take the offensive and regain the ground we have lost. I need not dwell upon the advantages of success in that quarter. The whole is apparent to you. Longstreet can be given greater mobility by supplying him with horses and mules to mount his infantry. He can only be strengthened by detaching from Beauregard's, Johnston's, or this army. If I could draw Longstreet secretly and rapidly to me, I might succeed in forcing General Meade back to Washington, and exciting sufficient apprehension at least for their own position to weaken any movement against ours. All the cavalry would have to be left in Longstreet's present front, and Jones would have to be strengthened. If the first plan is adopted, supplies will have at once to be accumulated at Bristol or along the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, ostensibly for Longstreet's present use. If the latter, provision must be made at Gordonsville and Richmond for this army. We are not in a condition, and never have been, in my opinion, to invade the enemy's country with a prospect of permanent benefit. But we can alarm and embarrass him to some extent, and thus prevent his undertaking anything of magnitude against us. I have ventured to suggest these ideas to Your Excellency for consideration, that, viewing the whole subject with your knowledge of the state of things east and west, you may know whether either is feasible, or what else can better be done. Time is an important element to our success.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February 3, 1864.*

The commanding general announces with gratification the reenlistment of the regiments of this army for the war, and the reiteration of the war regiments of their determination to continue in arms until independence is achieved. This action gives new cause for the gratitude and admiration of their countrymen. It is hoped this patriotic movement, commenced in the Army of Tennessee, will be followed by every brigade of the Army of Northern Virginia, and extend from army to army until the soldiers of the South stand in one embattled host determined never to yield.

The troops which initiated this movement, so honorable to themselves and so pleasing to the country, are Hart's (South Carolina)

battery, Battle's (Alabama) brigade, Doles' (Georgia) brigade, Ramseur's (North Carolina) brigade, Johnston's (North Carolina) brigade, Daniel's (North Carolina) brigade, the Eleventh and Eighth Alabama Regiments, and the Forty-seventh Regiment North Carolina troops.

Soldiers, imitate this noble example and evince to the world that you never can be conquered. The blessing of God upon your undaunted courage will bestow peace and independence to a grateful people.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Wilmington, February* 3, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM M. BROWNE,
*Aide to the President, Richmond:*

COLONEL: I learn that a call has been made by Congress for my correspondence on the defenses of Wilmington. I write respectfully suggesting, for obvious reasons, that it should not be printed or made public, at least till all danger shall have passed. If it is printed there is great likelihood of copies finding their way to the enemy, in which case the whole system of defense would be exposed and our weak points designated.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 6, 1864.

Respectfully referred by the President to the honorable Secretary of War, to be considered in connection with the call for the correspondence referred to.

G. W. C. LEE,
*Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.*

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KINSTON, *February* 3, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: Made a reconnaissance within a mile and a half of New Berne, with Hoke's brigade and a part of Corse's and Clingman's and some artillery. Met the enemy in force at Batchelder's Creek; killed and wounded about 100 in all; captured 13 officers and 280 prisoners, 14 negroes, 2 rifled pieces and caissons, 300 stands of small-arms, 4 ambulances, 3 wagons, 55 animals, a quantity of clothing, camp and garrison equipage, and 2 flags. Commander Wood, C. S. Navy, captured and destroyed U. S. gun-boat Underwriter. Our loss, 35 killed and wounded. Am returning toward Kinston.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Stuart directs me to say that, in consequence of the threatened advance upon Richmond from the Peninsula, Lloyd's

will be too much exposed to be made a depot of supplies. It will also be necessary in consequence of the move of the enemy to move your command toward Hanover Court-House. It will be necessary, however, for you to make arrangements to supply your command, and General Stuart would advise you not to move far from the railroad, so that you can receive your supply of corn from it, and devote most your wagons to hauling long forage, especially as it seems that the failure to supply your horses with corn from the railroad has been owing to a misunderstanding as to the point where it should be deposited. General Stuart also directs me to inclose a memorandum* of forage which it is said can be obtained near Wallers Tavern.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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RICHMOND, *February* 5, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE,
*Comdg. Army of N. Va., near Orange Court-House:*

GENERAL: Your communications of the 13th, 19th, and 30th ultimo, as also that of the 2d instant, have been received. That of the 13th came to hand just after my letter of the 20th had been mailed.

I have carefully considered your views, and agree with you fully that our main reliance must be our home resources, though I do think that under proper management importations from abroad will go far to supply certain deficiencies. I am glad, too, to see that you do not encourage further the purchase of leather by the exchange of hides, as that course undoubtedly leads to an extravagant expenditure of material. I prefer even, as heretofore suggested, resorting to impressment.

I am making every effort to fill promptly the requisition from Major Harman for leather with which to repair shoes. I am compelled to say, however, that it will not be practicable, for the present at least, to furnish you with material from the depot at this point to be made up into shoes in camp. With the aid of men temporarily detailed from the local commands, and material renewed at short intervals from the country at large, this depot is now turning out daily nearly 500 pairs of shoes. Is it desirable to break up this establishment, where leather can certainly be worked up with more safety and economy than in the field, by encroaching upon its supply of material in the manner proposed? The samples forwarded from your command, especially that from Posey's brigade, compare favorably with shoes manufactured elsewhere. It is not easy, though, to make all of a production correspond with furnished samples. Although many of the detailed men sent to the depot are but cobblers, and some not even that, I am satisfied that the shoes turned out here are fair specimens and serviceable. I am informed by Major Ferguson that two members of your staff, General Chilton and Major Taylor, seemed thoroughly satisfied on this point, after a personal inspection of his establishment.

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*Not found.

I inclose several blank authorities, to be filled up with the names of such agents or officers as Major Harman may select to obtain from the valley the leather reported to be there. Some I have signed and others go unsigned, as it is my impression that general orders, if not the law, require that all impressments made for the immediate use of an army shall be authorized by the commanding officers of the army or some detachment thereof. I hope that, through energetic and discreet agents, Major Harman may succeed in procuring large quantities of leather from the valley and other accessible points, and that your expectations in connection with its manufacture into shoes by the men available in camp may be fully realized. I will do all in my power to assist you. I have ordered a lot of shoemakers' tools just received at Mobile to be sent forward, and it may be that Major Dillard, at Columbus, Ga., will be able to spare some leather. I look for his report daily.

You desire to be informed in regard to the prospects for the future. As to the article of blankets, we are entirely dependent upon the foreign markets for our supply. There is not a solitary establishment within the limits of the Confederacy where they are made, nor is there one, since the destruction of Crenshaw's, at this place, by fire, that possesses the appliances for making them. In view of this, would it not be well to require the men to turn them in for reissue just as soon as approaching summer will justify, as at that season these articles are wasted? The Department is also, owing to the great scarcity of wool, somewhat dependent upon the receipts from abroad for the heavy woolen cloths essential for winter wear. In the important item of shoes, I believe we are now laboring under our greatest difficulties, and that the coming spring will bring great relief. I do not allude so much to the relief incident to the season itself as that which will result from our increased resources. Besides the shoe establishment here, there are two other large ones in Georgia, at Columbus and Atlanta, and minor affairs at other points. Arrangements have been recently entered into for the introduction of machinery, which, with limited details, will enable two of these workshops to turn out 1,000 pairs of shoes each daily. Major Dillard has also in hand a very large number of hides that have been for some time in the vats, and which he reports will be available in the spring. A small portion of that material would relieve, if available now, the wants of the army.

In your letter of the 30th ultimo you remark that the army is in great distress for shoes and clothes, and that the requisitions sent in are unanswered. This carries with it, I think, some injustice to the Department. At the beginning of the present month the first consolidated requisition for supplies for the Army of Northern Virginia was received. Theretofore the practice had been to send partial requisitions, approved by the chief quartermaster, some times for divisions, sometimes brigades, and at other times for regiments even.

While all called for has not been sent, and that would be difficult to do, between our limited resources and the liberal character of the requisitions, surely the supplies forwarded, embracing thousands of pairs of shoes, blankets, and suits of clothing, must have filled some of the requisitions. I will forward to you, at an early day, a report showing the extent of the issues made.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 6, 1864.

General STUART,
*Commanding, &c.:*

General Ewell reports enemy in force at Morton's Ford and is getting his troops in position. I have sent for artillery. Endeavor to find out enemy's intentions and direction. If his army is in motion we must concentrate and fight him. You had better prepare Wickham to move to the front.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *February* 6, 1864.

General STUART,
*Commanding, &c.:*

General Ewell reports that the enemy has crossed two regiments of infantry at Morton's Ford and driven in his pickets. They have two batteries in position. Notify your pickets to be on alert and be prepared to move with cavalry if necessary.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
*February* 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
*Hamilton's Crossing:*

Have one brigade ready to move at short notice. Indications at Morton's Ford may make it necessary for you to move to the support of your picket-line. Get up some hard bread.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Chaffin's Farm, February* 6, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The enemy have not attempted to rebuild Diascond bridge, as the newspapers reported. A dispatch from Lieutenant Hume, commanding foot scouts, dated 10 a. m. yesterday, says that Colonel Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, was expected to make an expedition up the Peninsula some 5 or 10 miles, for the purpose of administering the oath of allegiance to the citizens. All in Williamsburg were required to take it on the 3d and 4th instant. He thinks the enemy's contemplated raid has been delayed by the desertion of the prisoner sent to you, and that Williamsburg is to be held by a stronger force, and become an important permanent post.

I am, major, yours respectfully,

EPPA HUNTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

[No. 7.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to North Carolina troops.

The Congress of the Confederate States having learned through the public press of the re-enlistment for the war of the North Carolina brigade, in the Army of Northern Virginia, serving under General Robert D. Johnston: Therefore,

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the patriotism and spirit of the North Carolina troops, evinced by their prompt and voluntary devotion of themselves afresh to the service of the country, are beyond all praise, and deserve the unbounded gratitude of the country.

Approved February 6, 1864.

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[No. 9.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Alabama troops who have re-enlisted for the war.

Whereas the Alabama troops composing the brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. Cullen A. Battle, in the Army of Northern Virginia, volunteered in the service of the Confederate States in the early part of the year 1861, upon the first call for troops for the defense of Virginia, have participated in every battle fought by that army from the battle of Seven Pines to that of Gettysburg, always winning by their gallantry and devotion deserved praise and honor; and now, after enduring for nearly three years the hardships and dangers of active military service, have re-enlisted for the war: Therefore,

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to the Alabama troops, who, by their renewing the offer of their services to the country for the war in advance of any legislative action, have shown a spirit undaunted, a heroic determination to battle ever until the independence of their country is established, and a consecration to the cause of liberty worthy of imitation by their comrades.

*Resolved*, That the President be requested to communicate a copy of these resolutions to the commander and troops of said brigade, as an evidence of the grateful appreciation by Congress of their fortitude and heroism during the trials and dangers of past services and of their late act of patriotism, confirming the faith and reassuring the hope of the patriot.

Approved February 6, 1864.

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[No. 10.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to certain Florida troops.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and men of the Second Florida Regiment, who, after a service of distinguished gallantry and heroic suffering for nearly three years, did, on the 28th ultimo, at a meeting held near Rapidan Station, Va., resolve to re-enlist for the war at the expiration of their present term of service.

Approved February 6, 1864.

[No. 11.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the division commanded by Major-General Rodes.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America, having learned that the division of troops commanded by Major-General Rodes have re-enlisted for the war, do—

*Resolve*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and troops commanded by Major-General Rodes for the patriotism exhibited by them in re-enlisting for the war, as well as for the gallantry they have always displayed upon the field of battle; and they are assured that their country will always bear in grateful remembrance the noble manner in which they have come to her assistance in the hour of her need.

*Resolved further*, That the President be requested to communicate these resolutions to General Rodes and the officers and troops under his command.

Approved February 6, 1864.

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[No. 12.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to Brig. Gen. S. D. Ramseur's brigade of North Carolina troops for tendering their services for the war.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to the gallant brigade of North Carolina troops commanded by Brig. Gen. S. D. Ramseur, in the Army of Northern Virginia, for their devoted patriotism in unanimously offering their valuable services to the Confederacy for the war, after having already signalized their patriotic zeal, fortitude, and valor on many fields of battle and in many scenes of trial.

Approved February 6, 1864.

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 15. } *February 7*, 1864.

I. The attention of the army has already been called to the obligation of a proper observance of the Sabbath, but a sense of its importance, not only as a moral and religious duty, but as contributing to the personal health and well-being of the troops, induces the commanding general to repeat the orders on that subject. He has learned with great pleasure that in many brigades convenient houses of worship have been erected, and earnestly desires that every facility consistent with the requirements of discipline shall be afforded the men to assemble themselves together for the purpose of devotion.

II. To this end he directs that none but duties strictly necessary shall be required to be performed on Sunday, and that all labor, both of men and animals, which it is practicable to anticipate or postpone, or the immediate performance of which is not essential to the safety, health, or comfort of the army, shall be suspended on that day.

III. Commanding officers will require the usual inspections on Sunday to be held at such time as not to interfere with the attendance of the men on divine service at the customary hour in the morning. They also will give their attention to the maintenance of order and quiet around the places of worship, and prohibit anything that may tend to disturb or interrupt religious exercises.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

WELDON, *February* 8, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Your dispatch received. I start with Ransom's brigade as soon as transportation can be procured. Will use all diligence. Clingman's will follow without delay.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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PETERSBURG, *February* 9, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

Your dispatch of yesterday was received this morning on my arrival at this place, too late to stop all of Ransom's brigade, two regiments of which are here, but will go back to-day. I will report to you in person to-night or to-morrow morning.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., February* 9, 1864.

The PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES:

SIR: I have received a copy of the following resolutions of the House of Representatives, referred by Your Excellency to this Department:

*Resolved*, That the President be respectfully requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to this House any correspondence with General Whiting relative to the defense of Wilmington, N. C.

Second. That the President be also respectfully requested to inform this House whether any aid can be given by further legislation to the complete defense of that important post.

I had with much hesitation directed the correspondence to be copied, and it was nearly ready for transmission when the letter of General Whiting, a copy of which is inclosed,* was received, and sharing his fears that serious evils might result from the communication of his correspondence at this time, I have concluded to submit a copy of his letter instead, believing it will satisfy the House of Representatives that it would be "incompatible with the public interest" to furnish the correspondence called for by their resolution.

I am not aware of any measures of legislation required especially for the more complete defense of Wilmington. Great skill, energy, and activity have been displayed by the general commanding in improving and strengthening the fortifications of that city. Some embarrassments have occasionally resulted from the difficulty of commanding the requisite labor, and not unfrequently there has been inability to furnish the troops which were desirable for its defense. Aid in these two respects for the better protection of Wilmington, in common with that of all other fortified positions, might be afforded by legislation which would add to the resources at the command of the Department in obtaining an increased number both of laborers and of soldiers.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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*See p. 1145.

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. L. LOMAX,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Stuart directs me to say that he wishes you to have the fords of the Robertson River again barricaded. Where timber is not convenient to form abatis, he desires you to have a regular stockade formed. He wishes you also to make the roads which bisect the principal roads leading from the fords as few as possible. The position of your reserve pickets should be rendered as secure as possible by abatis, with outlets before and behind well known to the men, but difficult of approach to the enemy, so that in case of surprise they can successfully defend themselves. Let a pioneer party under a competent officer be detailed for this work. When completed it will much lessen the chances of your men being captured.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. B. McCLELLAN,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 10, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Since my last announcement the following troops have re-enlisted for the war: The remaining regiments of Wilcox's old brigade, Ninth and Tenth Alabama; Mahone's brigade, Gordon's (Georgia) brigade, the Third and Twenty-second Georgia Regiments of Wright's brigade, the First Regiment Virginia Artillery, Lomax's (Virginia) cavalry brigade. Re-enlistments progressing in other brigades and divisions.

R. E. LEE.

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HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. FITZHUGH LEE,
*Commanding Division:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to call your attention to General Orders, No. 14, headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, a copy of which is inclosed.* I am desirous that the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia, which is inferior to no portion of our army in the patriotism which inspires its members and in services rendered to our cause, should not be behind their comrades in arms in expressing to the world their determination never to relinquish this contest until an honorable peace renders their heroic sacrifices no longer necessary. I well know that this determination exists in the heart of every member of this command; that while our enemies remain in arms against us there will be found not one who would exchange the privations of the camp for all the luxuries of home.

*See p. 1144.

I only ask for the expression of this determination that it may go forth to the world, giving strength and confidence to our friends at home, and convincing our enemies and the world of the earnestness of our resolve. Already have the brave men of the West, with loud acclaim, declared their purpose. Longstreet has sent its echoes from the bleak and frozen hills of East Tennessee back to the Atlantic shore, and in the Army of Northern Virginia the veterans of Alabama, North Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia, in other corps, have nobly responded to the call. Now, while many of your companions are at their homes renewing their strength for the coming campaign, is a most fitting opportunity for this declaration. Now, while surrounded by their friends, in the sweet presence of those whom it is their sacred duty to defend, now while the smiles of love and beauty are ready to reward, let them renew their vows of patriotism, and go in for the war. Already has Lomax's brigade of your division gone in to a man; what shall I say of the rest of Lee's division, which has never yet been behind in any noble work?

I have the honor to be, &c., very respectfully,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS BUTLER'S CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*February* 10, 1864.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor, very respectfully, to ask that this brigade be relieved with four full regiments from the coast of Georgia and South Carolina. It is impossible to recruit the brigade unless this is done. I cannot see how General Beauregard's department would be loser by this exchange. In less than a month after the exchange, this brigade, being on the coast and near their homes, would be as full as the new regiments. Two-thirds of my brigade are dismounted, and it is impossible to mount them in Virginia. Many of the companies have become depleted by casualties in action to such a degree that they have fallen below the minimum, and these companies would be able in a short time to recruit up to the requisite number. Something must be done, and done soon, or at the beginning of the spring campaign this brigade will not put as many men in the field for duty as ought to constitute one regiment. The authorities are already too well aware that our capital has more than once been endangered and exposed to the raids of the enemy, and all for the reason that our cavalry force was too small to cope with the enemy, and scarcely sufficient to keep up the picket-line. If portions of our country are laid waste and our capital exposed for the want of cavalry, why not have it when so much is lying idle and actually in need of exercise? I respectfully propose that one full regiment be ordered on at once and permit me to send back two in its place. At the expiration of a month let three others be ordered up, and send back my remaining three. This will be giving General Beauregard five regiments for four.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. B. YOUNG,
*Brigadier-General.*

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 12, 1864.

Approved and respectfully forwarded.

It is with great reluctance that I make a recommendation which, if carried into effect, will take from my command this brigade, which I value and trust so highly and to which I am so greatly attached. But I feel sure that the service, not only here but in South Carolina and Georgia, would be benefited by the exchange proposed. If three regiments from South Carolina and two from Georgia were ordered on, they could bring into the field next spring 5,000 fresh horses, whilst this brigade would perform all the duty required of these troops in the south fully as well as they do. Two regiments could be sent from here, with all the disabled horses, now, and the others could go on as soon as one full regiment from South Carolina reaches here. I cannot too strongly urge upon the general commanding the importance of this exchange, and I hope he will obtain from the Secretary of War a peremptory order to have at least four regiments sent here, when the State troops go out of service. This brigade would soon fill up if sent home.

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 13, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I cannot approve the transfer of any cavalry from this army when the number is already inadequate for the work to be done. I heartily approve the immediate and peremptory transfer of two Georgia and two South Carolina regiments of cavalry to set out on the 1st of March for this army, but no exchange. The cavalry force of the Confederate States should be apportioned according to the force of the enemy of that arm of service opposed. Thus far, this has not been done. The enemy has kept his largest and best force of cavalry in his Army of the Potomac, while our largest opposing has been six brigades. The Army of Tennessee, on the contrary, has eight or ten brigades, besides Morgan's, Forrest's, and S. D. Lee's commands; and South Carolina and Georgia have 4,000 or 5,000 fresh cavalry at least.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIGRINIA,
*February* 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

We have not now, nor have we ever had, a sufficiency of cavalry in this army for the service required of it. I cannot recommend the transfer of any from this army unless its place is supplied by that from other departments, and request to know the regiments to be sent here before these are removed.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 19, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War, and the transfer within recommended, as suggested by General Lee.

See within letter from General Hampton.* The cavalry in Army of Northern Virginia should be speedily re-enforced. It has always been too limited in numbers.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 19, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

You will select a proper regiment in South Carolina, full in numbers, and exchange.

J. A. S.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 34. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February* 10, 1864.

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XII. Maj. William M. Owen, Provisional Army, C. S., is relieved from duty with Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, and will report to Lieut. Gen. J. Longstreet, commanding, &c., at Morristown, Tenn., for assignment to duty.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, February* 10, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding, &c., Orange Court-House:*

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 2d instant. My chief reasons for telegraphing you on the 31st ultimo of the indications of another move from the Kanawha was that I apprehended the movement might be designed to attract attention in that direction whilst General Averell or some other leader would make another raid east of but near my department, and I thought it probable you might desire to communicate the information to your officers commanding in the Valley of Virginia.

I had no idea of asking you to detach any portion of your army permanently to aid me, but only wished you to place a small force on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, to be used in case of necessity, and to be returned to you when the immediate necessity for their presence should be removed. I knew my department was beyond your command, but did not think that any reason why you should not give me a little temporary aid in protecting a very long and important line, if you could do so without endangering your own command.

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*See Hampton to Seddon, February 12, p. 1163.

If I had heretofore declined to allow any of my troops to go beyond my department my command would now be much larger than it is. Two of the infantry regiments I sent to you temporarily, as I supposed, have never been returned to me, and all the troops I carried to East Tennessee last fall to meet a pressing and, as I supposed, temporary emergency, caused by the abandonment of that section of country, are now under Lieutenant-General Longstreet's orders.

You seem to overestimate the success which has heretofore attended General Averell's expeditions—I mean those of his expeditions into and near my department. He has made three such expeditions. On the first he was met near White Sulphur Springs, on the 26th and 27th of August last, and whipped and driven back to his base with heavy loss.

On the second he drove our troops from Droop Mountain on the 6th of November last, but suffered so severely that he did not venture south of Greenbrier River, and he and his officers admitted, as I am informed, the expedition was a failure. On his third expedition, in December last, he succeeded in penetrating between your command and mine, and struck the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, without coming within the limits of this department. On that raid he damaged us very slightly, and his own command suffered severely.

I have not observed the terror with which you seem to think Averell has inspired the troops in his front. I was with them during the late raid and did not observe in them any indications of terror; on the contrary, they exhibited, amidst great difficulties and hardships, enthusiasm and eagerness to meet the enemy, and if Averell had persevered in his attempt to return by the Sweet Springs I believe his command would have been captured or destroyed.

You suggest that an aggressive movement on my part would, by throwing the enemy on the defensive, greatly lighten my labors. It happens that the two principal forces in my front operate from different bases, several hundred miles apart, and are wholly independent of each other. They are, besides, so far separated from me, by a country devoid of forage and subsistence, that they can easily evade me and fall back beyond my reach, if they desire to do so. Neither force is dependent upon the other for protection against any attack on it, and if I attack either one the other can penetrate to this railroad with impunity, and ride from one end to the other of it, unless troops can be sent out of other departments to prevent them. I am sure that if you knew the strength of my command, and had looked at the problem before me as earnestly as I have, to see if it admitted of a solution calculated to be productive of good to our cause, you would not advise me to make an aggressive movement at this time.

I shall lose no opportunity which promises success of striking the enemy.

With great respect, general, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, February* 10, 1864; *headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | |
| Staff | 15 | ..... | 15 | 20 |
| Early's division *a* | 313 | 3,653 | 4,720 | 9,289 |
| Johnson's division | 394 | 4,140 | 5,372 | 10,439 |
| Rodes' division *b* | 424 | 5,129 | 6,706 | 12,514 |
| Total | 1,146 | 12,922 | 16,822 | 32,262 |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | |
| Staff | 15 | ..... | 15 | 18 |
| Anderson's division | 443 | 5,595 | 6,918 | 12,245 |
| Heth's division *c* | 282 | 4,411 | 5,278 | 8,233 |
| Wilcox's division *d* | 356 | 4,962 | 6,072 | 9,125 |
| Total | 1,096 | 14,968 | 18,283 | 29,621 |
| Cavalry Corps, *e* Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: | | | | |
| Hampton's division | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Fitzhugh Lee's division | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Artillery Corps, Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 15 | 339 | 397 | 573 |
| Second Army Corps *e* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Third Army Corps | 106 | 1,909 | 2,342 | 3,338 |
| Cavalry Corps | 18 | 340 | 388 | 596 |
| Total | 139 | 2,588 | 3,127 | 4,507 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | |
| Valley District *e* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Maryland Line | 51 | 706 | 857 | 1,312 |
| Provost guard | 17 | 228 | 315 | 495 |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 7 | 123 | 147 | 224 |
| Total | 75 | 1,057 | 1,319 | 2,031 |
| Grand total | 2,456 | 31,535 | 39,551 | 68,421 |

*a* Hoke's brigade detached.
*b* Twelfth and Twenty-first Georgia and Forty-third North Carolina not reported.
*c* Walker's brigade detached.
*d* Thomas' brigade detached.
*e* Not reported.

*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey, C. S. Army, commanding, February* 10, 1864; *headquarters Richmond, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| General staff | 9 | ..... | ..... | 9 | 11 | ..... |
| Richmond Defenses | 89 | 1,472 | 1,589 | 1,838 | 2,130 | ..... |
| Hunton's brigade | 98 | 1,150 | 1,135 | 1,447 | 2,458 | ..... |
| Chaffin's Bluff | 24 | 343 | 431 | 484 | 534 | 17 |
| Drewry's Bluff | 19 | 315 | 382 | 426 | 501 | 12 |
| 2d Maryland Infantry | 28 | 258 | 258 | 339 | 506 | ..... |
| Total | 258 | 2,538 | 3,795 | 4,534 | 6,129 | 29 |

*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, &c.*—Continued.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion Cavalry | 17 | 204 | 201 | 284 | 375 | ..... |
| 42d Virginia Battalion Cavalry | 15 | 209 | 209 | 276 | 648 | ..... |
| 1st Maryland Cavalry | 16 | 282 | 282 | 328 | 589 | ..... |
| Total cavalry | 48 | 695 | 692 | 888 | 1,612 | .... |
| Cooper's (Virginia) battery | 4 | 103 | 103 | 114 | 121 | 4 |
| 2d Maryland Artillery | 3 | 63 | 63 | 76 | 100 | 3 |
| Lightfoot's battalion | 11 | 294 | 315 | 350 | 370 | 14 |
| Stark's battalion | 9 | 195 | 192 | 232 | 241 | 8 |
| Total | 27 | 655 | 673 | 772 | 832 | 29 |
| Grand total | 342 | 4,888 | 5,160 | 6,203 | 8,584 | 58 |

*Organization of troops in the Department of Richmond, commanded by Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey, C. S. Army, February 10, 1864.*

*Hunton's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON.

8th Virginia, Capt. Henry C. Bowie.
19th Virginia, Capt. James G. Woodson.
28th Virginia, Capt. William L. Wingfield.
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.
56th Virginia, Capt. John Richardson.
Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion, Col. W. Pinkney Shingler.
42d Virginia Battalion Cavalry, Lieut. Col. W. T. Robins.

*Maryland Line.*

Col. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON.

2d Maryland, Capt. James P. Crane.
1st Maryland Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Ridgely Brown.
2d Maryland Battery, Capt. William H. Griffin.
Cooper's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Raleigh L. Cooper.

RICHMOND DEFENSES.

Col. WALTER H. STEVENS.

*First Division, Inner Line.*

Lieut. Col. JOHN W. ATKINSON.

10th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. James O. Hensley,
19th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. N. R. Cary.

*Second Division, Inner Line.*

Lieut. Col. JAMES HOWARD.

18th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. Mark B. Hardin.
20th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. James E. Robertson.

*Unattached.*

Louisiana Guard Artillery, Capt. Charles A. Green
Engineer company, Lieut. H. C. Derrick.

*Light Artillery.*

Lieut. Col. C. E. LIGHTFOOT.

Caroline (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas R. Thornton.
2d Nelson (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. J. Henry Rives.
Surry (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. James D. Hankins.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF.

*Heavy Artillery.**

Lieut. Col. J. M. MAURY.

Goochland (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Jonathan Talley.
Virginia Howitzer Company, Capt. John J. Young.
James City (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Lucien W. Richardson.
Lunenburg (Virginia) Rebel Artillery, Capt. C. Tacitus Allen.
Pamunkey (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Andrew J. Jones.

DREWRY'S BLUFF.

*Heavy Artillery.**

Maj. FRANCIS W. SMITH.

Johnston (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Branch J. Epes.
Neblett (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Wiley G. Coleman.
Southside (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. John W. Drewry.
United (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas Kevill.

CHAFFIN'S FARM.

*Light Artillery Battalion.*

Maj. ALEXANDER W. STARK.

Alexandria (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. David L. Smoot.
Mathews (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. A. D. Armistead.
McComas (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. David A. French.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 11, 1864.

General J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding in the Valley:*

GENERAL: I have received your report of the 6th instant.† Your expedition to Petersburg and the valley of the Potomac was conducted with skill and boldness, and attended with important success. I have forwarded your report to the Secretary of War, and commended your conduct and that of the troops under you to his attention.

I desire you to turn over to the commissary agent in the valley the cattle and sheep, and to the quartermaster of this army the wagons and teams for its use. I wish you also to inform me of the condition and position of the troops, and to make every arrangement you can for their comfort. It is my desire to refresh and recruit them all I can, particularly the cavalry. It will be necessary to relieve Rosser's brigade from further duty and give it an opportunity to rest and fill up its ranks. The cavalry of the valley will be sufficient for all ordinary duty. I wish you also to inform me whether any further benefit can be accomplished by retaining Thomas' and Walker's brigades longer in the valley, or whether the enemy's force renders it necessary. I wish you would give every facility to Captains Janney and Merritt to procure leather for this

* Reported as infantry.

† See p. 43.

army. They are now in the valley for that purpose. I must request you also to give attention to fortifying the gaps through the mountains, so as to embarrass, if not arrest, all predatory expeditions of the enemy. I have sent Captain Howard, of the engineers, to you for this duty, who will be assisted by a party of engineers who have been surveying the roads, &c., in that country for some time. I have thought that the principal routes through the mountains could be defended by well-constructed fieldworks and the minor ones blockaded.

When you have accomplished all the good you can in your present field of duty it is my wish to recall you to your division.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF HENRICO,
*Richmond, Va., February* 11, 1864.

General EARLY,
*Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: Inclosed I have the honor to forward you copy* of a letter written from Williamsport, Md., by Capt. George H. Hammond, provost-marshal at that place, to one W. L. Dooly, who is now confined at this place, with copy* also of the indorsement of the Secretary of War on original paper.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. H. WINDER,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 11, 1864.

General ARNOLD ELZEY,
*Commanding, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: As far as I am able to learn, the expedition up the Peninsula has returned to Yorktown. I therefore know of no benefit that the troops sent to Hanover Junction and Richmond can now accomplish. They were taken from their huts, and, without adequate clothing, will suffer when exposed to cold weather like the present. I therefore request that you will order them back. I recommend that their transportation be so arranged as not to interfere with that of the supplies for this army.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 11, 1864.

General R. F. HOKE,
*Kinston, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I have received by Major Wharton your report of the 8th instant of the operations in vicinity of New Berne.†

I am very glad to see that you and your gallant brigade accomplished your part of the work, while I regret very much that success

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*Not found. †See p. 95.

did not attend the whole expedition. It is difficult in a combined attack to regulate and harmonize on an extensive field all the operations, but much was accomplished, and I hope the information obtained will secure future success. I am glad that you have made arrangements to urge forward the gun-boats. While they are being completed I desire you to use every exertion to recruit your brigade. I fear this cannot be as well accomplished in your present position as if you were farther west, unless the Governor can help you. I have thought, however, that your two regiments that are so much reduced might be sent to the section of the State in which they were organized for the purpose of rest and refreshment, and be at the same time recruited. If you can spare them for the time, and think they can be recruited, I desire you to send them to the most favorable position for the purpose. I hope you will also do all in your power for the comfort of your men, as well as to render them as strong and effective in the approaching campaign as possible.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General:*

GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter of February 8, calling my attention to Col. Larkin Smith's indorsement in reply to mine of February 1. You have misunderstood the purport of my indorsement, which makes no charge against officers of the Quartermaster or any other department of using supplies in an unauthorized manner. I was not aware of the distinction drawn by Colonel Smith between post quartermasters and quartermasters of military posts. My intention was to draw the attention of Colonel Smith to the fact that officers at many military posts in the country, such as Staunton, Liberty, Farmville, Danville, Richmond, &c., under article 1127, Army Regulations, are allowed to purchase supplies for their families. It is believed that large amounts of commissary stores are consumed in this way which it would be prudent to send to soldiers in the field. About the date of the indorsement of February 1, I wrote to the Secretary of War recommending a modifications of regulation 1127 so as to take this privilege from officers at posts, in order to husband our limited supplies and remove causes of dissatisfaction in the army and among the people. If the Secretary of War has no power to modify the privilege, I would respectfully suggest that Congress pass a law upon the subject abolishing the law in question. A proper inspection of the military posts would show the extent of the evil.

I can appreciate the difficulties under which Colonel Smith has labored in his efforts to collect the tithes by a well-regulated system, and no one can more cordially wish him success than myself.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, February* 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Comdg. Army of Northern Virginia, Orange C. H., Va.:*

GENERAL: You asked me some weeks since to inform you where any cattle, hogs, sheep, &c., can be procured. Brigadier-General Hodge has just marched through West North Carolina and informs me that he saw large numbers of cattle, hogs, and sheep in the section of country through which he marched. He thinks that even at this late day a quantity of hogs might be slaughtered and salted in that section of country, or they might be driven near this railroad, where salt and transportation would be more convenient. I give you the information for what it is worth. That section of country is beyond my limits, but the Commissary-General might procure any supplies the country affords. That section of country is not as loyal as could be wished, and the people would probably not be willing to take Confederate money, and some force would be necessary to collect the supplies.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

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MEADOW STATION, *February* 12, 1864.

Major-General ELZEY:

GENERAL: A courier from Barhamsville reports that the enemy was there in heavy cavalry force, advancing rapidly.

Very respectfully,

W. P. SHINGLER,
*Colonel, Cavalry.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *February* 12, 1864.

General R. E. LEE
(*Through Major-General Stuart*):

GENERAL: Your telegraphic dispatch reached me last night, and one from General Elzey came a short time previously. On the reception of the last-named one my command received marching orders, and I telegraphed to General Elzey advising him of this and asking him to give me full information. To this he replied that there was no further information. This morning I again communicated with him and asked if he wished me to go down, but no reply has yet reached me. I should have moved down at the first notice of the approach of the enemy, but for the fact that false alarms constantly came from the Peninsula and my command is in such condition that a hard march would break it down entirely. The last fruitless expedition did my horses much harm. In the North Carolina brigade only the Second Regiment is here, the First being on picket duty, and the major commanding it reports this morning but 65 horses for duty, and in Young's brigade I do not think that more than 350 men can be mounted. I was therefore very unwilling to take my reduced and worn-out command on a march, unless there was an actual necessity for my doing so. I had written thus far when the following dispatch from General Elzey was received:

The enemy have again retired to Williamsburg. No assistance will be required.

As these advances of the enemy seem to be constant, I would suggest that the only mode to stop them would be to have a sufficient

force organized to move at a moment's notice. Have it located somewhere between this point and King William County, with the means of crossing the Pamunkey River, and at the first notice of the advance of the enemy let it be thrown across the river at Cumberland Ferry, which is within 2 miles of New Kent Court-House. The river at that point is narrow and the ferry good. This I know from a personal examination. If a small mobile force is placed at my disposal I think that I can venture to promise that the people of Richmond will not be thrown into such regular and great panics as they now suffer under.

A small force of infantry could act in concert with cavalry for this purpose to great advantage. Two good flats, which could be carried each on a wagon, would furnish ample means of crossing the river if, as I suppose is the case, it is not guarded. I will with pleasure make a reconnaissance into that country if you desire me to do so. I noticed when I was at the Junction the other day that the works there were incomplete. The position is a strong one, and it occurs to me that it is of great importance to have our lines there strong and complete before the opening of the spring campaign. It may be necessary to uncover these lines, in which case, if they are strong, they could repulse any cavalry raid.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *February* 12, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War (through Major-General Stuart):*

SIR: An application has been made by Brigadier-General Young to have the brigade he now commands relieved by fresh regiments from Georgia and South Carolina, and as I regard this proposition as very important, I deem it necessary to give more at large than I could do by a simple indorsement the reasons which have forced me to approve it. This brigade has participated in nearly all the fights which have occurred since its formation; it has been constantly on arduous duty, with the exception of two months, and it is now so reduced that it cannot mount 500 men on horses fit for duty. In the last year it has had upward of 2,000 fresh horses brought on by the men, in addition to those captured, and yet it cannot now turn out a full regiment. Many of the men are unable to buy horses here, and unless prompt measures for its relief are taken this command, which for gallantry and all soldierly qualities is certainly second to none in the service, will soon be unfit for duty. The men, who all come from distant States, cannot obtain horses readily from their homes, nor can their disabled horses be recruited here. But if the brigade could be sent home to South Carolina or Georgia its numbers would soon be increased, whilst many of the horses which are unfit for cavalry could be exchanged with the planters for good ones. Its numbers are amply sufficient to perform all the picket duty in South Carolina and Georgia, and in case of an attack on either of those States its dismounted men, who have been regularly drilled as infantry, would be very effective, as the only mode in which cavalry can fight there would be on foot. Five regiments from the two States named could be sent to take its place here, and 5,000 well-mounted men could be put here, where they will be so much needed next spring. Rutledge's regiment, South Carolina, has 1,350 men

in it; the three other South Carolina regiments have each from 1,000 to 1,100, and Anderson's Georgia regiment has, I am told, 1,000. To effect the change proposed I suggest that two of the regiments here be ordered at once to South Carolina, and at the same time two from South Carolina be ordered to report here. On the arrival of the latter here the rest of this brigade could be sent to South Carolina, while the other regiments come on here from that State. A sufficient force can thus always be kept here, as well as on the coast, and when the campaign opens here my command will be in condition to do some service. It is with great regret that I propose a plan which will take from me the men whom I have learned to trust and rely on, but in justice to them and to the service I am compelled to do so. This is the only plan by which this brigade can be saved from destruction or by which the cavalry necessary here can be obtained. I trust, therefore, that it will be adopted at once, and that orders from you will have it promptly carried into effect.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
*February* 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

This is an unpropitious time for marching cavalry as much reduced as this is so far. Attention is invited to my remarks on a similar application of General Young a few days since. We need more cavalry here, but cannot spare any.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

P. S.—Arrangements have been made to relieve this cavalry from picket duty during the month of March, when it will be allowed to go to Mathews or Middlesex to recruit for thirty days. The horses have received 8 pounds of corn as an average per day for a month, according to my inspector's report, but only 1 or 2 pounds of long forage. To remedy the last defect I have directed the best forager now in the Confederate States (Major Waite) to be temporarily on duty with this brigade to obtain for it long forage, with twenty additional wagons furnished from Richmond and five from corps quartermaster. With these additional facilities it is believed the brigade will fare better than by any disposition otherwise to be made. Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia cavalry stand this climate better than that so far south.

J. E. B. S.

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RICHMOND, VA., *February* 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

Send but one brigade in answer to my dispatch of the 7th, retaining the others for further orders. Let me know by telegraph when the brigade may be expected here. Information deemed reliable has been received from the Peninsula that the enemy are preparing to make a descent on Weldon.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, February* 12, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: If possible, I beg that you will send me another brigade, as asked previous to the expedition against New Berne. I have not half the troops necessary for common service here for the daily duties, leaving the question of attack open. The works are greatly increased; many points threatened and entirely open. The duty of the troops is greatly increased by the necessity of protecting and saving many valuable cargoes wrecked by the increasing numbers and vigilance of the enemy.

South of the river it is imperative for me to have a force, and I have none to place there. I received information from abroad that the pressure upon the Northern Government to stop this port and take it is enormous. They think there that starvation must do its work upon us with the want of supplies. I want to leave nothing to chance or to the neglect of the enemy, and therefore wish to be in condition to prevent a foothold being obtained by which either the railways could be cut or my harbor defenses turned before I could interpose effectual resistance. A brigade was placed at my disposal before the New Berne expedition. I now again most earnestly request its immediate presence here as indispensable, referring at the same time to many previous letters explaining the necessity for its presence.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War.

There are three brigades at Weldon and Kinston, but as a movement is in contemplation from those points, I question if either of these brigades can be spared for the within purpose at this time, and I know of no other troops that could be sent to General Whiting, whose effective force, by his last return, dated January 31, 1864, was 5,430; aggregate present, 6,181. The last return of Department of North Carolina, under General Pickett, December 31, 1863, shows effective force, 10,931; aggregate present, 13,239. Since this return he has sent to this city one brigade (Barton's).

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

I discern no greater necessity than has long existed for increase of force at Wilmington, but in deference to General Whiting, and in consideration of the importance of the place, submit his letter to your consideration.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Third indorsement.]

General Bragg, for consideration.

J. D.

[Fourth indorsement.]

Kemper's brigade has gone to Wilmington.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

STAUNTON, *February* 12, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding:*

GENERAL: Matters are quiet in the valley at present, and I hear of no indications of a movement by the enemy. The enemy has left Hardy County, and there has been no effort to reoccupy Petersburg, and I think there will not be any, at least for this winter.

The statements published in the Yankee papers that they attacked Rosser and recaptured the prisoners taken at Patterson's Creek and captured and wounded some of our men is an arrant falsehood from beginning to end. When Rosser went to Patterson's Creek he sent a regiment toward Romney to prevent any attempt to get into his rear by a force coming from Martinsburg that way. A lieutenant and 5 or 6 men were sent ahead as scouts, and on reaching Romney found a considerable force of cavalry advancing. They were pursued by the enemy, and the lieutenant's horse fell with him in the river and threw him, and he is supposed to have been captured. The regiment (the Seventh) took position in a gap at Mechanicsburg, and there had a skirmish with the advance of the enemy and drove it back, having 2 men wounded. Rosser came back without being attacked at all and without losing any of his men after the fight with the guard for the train.

The force which came to Moorefield as we were leaving consisted of some 2,000 or 3,000 mounted men sent from Martinsburg and Charlestown, and a considerable body of infantry and cavalry sent from New Creek and Green Spring and Cumberland, with twelve pieces of artillery, and perhaps more. It did not attack us and did not attempt to follow us. Only some 600 or 700 of the cattle brought off will do for beef, and they have been started to the army.

I am here to see the engineers about the defenses to be constructed west of this place, and shall leave in the morning for Buffalo Gap and Millborough. I desire to know how long you expect me to remain here. You will recollect that I have received no definite instructions, and have always regarded my position here as temporary. I have therefore left all my messing arrangements at my division headquarters, and I am badly off for horses here. My division will require my presence for some time before the beginning of the spring campaign to get it into condition. I fear things are getting loose there. I wish you, however, to understand that I am willing to do any service that you think I can do with benefit to the country.

Upon leaving here I should like to go home for some fifteen or twenty days before taking command of my division, for several considerations, as I have not been at home since the war began except for a very few days, when I was wounded in June, 1862. However, as I think all private considerations should give way to the public interests in these times, I shall be contented if you think I had better not go home. If I do go I should like to be at the March term of the court of my county, which takes place on the first Monday of the month, as I am informed there is engendering some discontent with the war and some lukewarmness in the cause, which I am informed I can rectify by my presence.

I hear there is some danger of Rosser's appointment not being confirmed. I have conceived a very high opinion of him as a cavalry officer, notwithstanding the affair I mentioned to you of his coming here after his wife. He attends to his duties and manages his men

well and I should regard it a great loss to the service if he should fail of having his appointment confirmed. He desires in the event of an advance of Meade upon you to cross the mountain and strike the railroad and the enemy's trains in the rear, and I submit whether it would not be well to keep him here with that view.

Respectfully,

J. A. EARLY,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS NORTHWEST BRIGADE,
*Four and a half Miles South of Swoope's Depot,*
*Augusta County, Va., February 12, 1864.*

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
*Chief of Staff, Army of Northern Virginia:*

COLONEL: I regret the necessity of troubling the commanding general with a personal matter, and would not do so but for the fact that my official character is involved, and to some extent the public service is affected.

It has come to my knowledge repeatedly that Maj. Gen. J. A. Early, commanding this district, habitually uses the most disparaging language in respect to my command, and indirectly in regard to myself, in the presence of my own officers and others of the army and citizens indiscriminately, charging in general terms that it is known to every one in the army and to every one in civil life in the valley, where this brigade has been on duty, that it is wholly inefficient, disorganized, undisciplined, and unreliable.

If these opinions of General Early are true in fact this brigade should be speedily disbanded and its men assigned to other commands or some officer be placed in command better qualified than myself to discharge the duties of the position I so unworthily fill. If, on the other hand, they are untrue and unjustifiable, it is due to me, no less than to the officers and men under my command, that these aspersions, unofficially thrown upon us in the towns and villages of the valley by one whose rank and official relations to the brigade give his remarks a most damaging credence, should be officially contradicted by the judgment of impartial and unprejudiced officers of the army, whose sense of honor will do us justice according to our deserts.

General Early has never said anything to me or in my presence or made any official order to which I have any ground of exception, but the fact that he is my commanding officer justifies me in the effort I now make to defend myself and command against sneers and remarks unofficially and publicly made which are calculated if true to bring me and my command into disrepute and contempt. I hope to be able to prove that General Early has done me and my command gross injustice by yielding to the promptings of prejudice rather than reason.

I therefore respectfully ask that the commanding general will order a court of inquiry to report upon my official conduct since I have commanded this brigade and the Valley District, and into the general character of my command for good order, discipline, courage, and soldierly qualities, and the character and amount of service performed by the brigade since it took the field in April, 1863, and the finding of such court, whatever it may be, with the

orders of the commanding general thereupon, be published in this district, especially where the brigade is known and where General Early has seen proper to disparage it in the manner complained of.

I forward this paper through General Early, as the proper channel of communication with General Lee.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS VALLEY DISTRICT,
*February* 12, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The extent of my remarks in regard to General Imboden's command is very greatly exaggerated. I have not spoken of the command in public, but have mentioned on several occasions in private the condition in which, I am sorry to say, I have found it, and I have said more to Colonel Smith, who has commanded it for the greater part of the time I have been in the valley, than to any one else, and more on the occasion of a very recent murder of one of the sergeants of the command in the streets of Staunton by a lieutenant than at any other time. I am sorry to say that I have found the command generally in a very bad state of discipline, and from what I have seen and heard of it, I should feel great reluctance to have to rely on it in any emergency. I had intended to call General Imboden's attention to the condition of his command, and urge upon him the necessity of improving its discipline and efficiency. No injury has been done this command in public estimation by any remarks that I have made, or am reputed to have made, for I have found the opinion very generally prevailing in all parts of the country where I have been and the command has operated that it is inefficient and undisciplined. What is the cause of this state of things I can only conjecture, but I think it due in great part to the fact that a large number of the men have been recruited from deserters from other parts of the army. I hope that the inquiry asked for may be granted, and that it may result in materially improving the condition of the command.

J. A. EARLY,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 15, 1864.

General Imboden has been informed by letter to-day that I do not think a court of inquiry advantageous.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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RICHMOND, *February* 13, 1864.

General SAMUEL JONES:

General W. E. Jones has been ordered to proceed to Morristown, Tenn., and report to General J. Longstreet.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

HEADQUARTERS CABELL'S BATTALION,
*February* 13, 1864.

General W. N. PENDLETON,
*Chief of Artillery:*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your valued note of the 11th instant.

My batteries are located as follows, viz: Fraser's battery, three guns, at Somerville Ford; Manly's battery, four guns, at Raccoon Ford; McCarthy's battery, four guns, at Morton's Ford; Carlton's battery, three guns, in reserve near the intersection of the roads leading to Raccoon and Morton's Fords, and equidistant from each. My headquarters are in a pine thicket adjacent to Captain Carlton's battery, and are a few hundred yards from General Rodes' old headquarters. The men are in good huts, the horses under good shelter. The horses are faring well. Scarcely any sickness of any kind in camp.

I sent a requisition for horses early this month to General Lee's headquarters; unfortunately, it has not been supplied. Yesterday I received information that a Napoleon gun had arrived at Orange Court-House, intended for Captain Carlton's battery. It would not be prudent to bring it here at present (though much needed) from the want of horses. I would be glad if you would write to Major Harman and urge him to supply us with horses immediately. It is bad policy to keep condemned horses here in front. The corn at first sent us was worm-eaten or rotten, and produced scurvy in the horses. Unfortunately, notwithstanding every care, 12 horses died. The forage is now sufficient, and of good quality.

Captain Fraser's battery requires another gun. After the Thursday's fight at Gettysburg, this battery having lost 2 officers wounded and a very large number of men and horses, it was thought advisable to turn over one of these guns to the quartermaster to be transported. It was sent to Staunton. The gun was a 3-inch rifled gun. I have written to Lieutenant-Colonel Baldwin, chief of ordnance, on the subject, asking a return of the gun. The gun will require horses and harness. There cannot be a more meritorious case.

I have written to you in regard to the promotion of First Lieut. Morgan Callaway. It would be a great misfortune to lose him from the battery, and remaining with it he ought to be promoted. I would be very glad if you would give the subject your immediate attention. If he cannot be commissioned as captain of the battery, cannot he be commissioned as captain of artillery, and assigned to the command of this battery?

You ask me if I "need any more guns." Captains Manly and Carlton's batteries are both large enough for six-gun batteries. If the guns and horses can be supplied, I would like them to be restored to their former position as six-gun batteries.

The attack of the enemy was by no means "a small affair." I have no doubt that they acted upon reports of the weakness of our forces and our supposed want of vigilance. Nearly all the pickets were taken prisoners. The preservation of the line and the consequent repulse of the enemy are unquestionably due to that portion of your artillery now with Lieutenant-General Ewell's corps. The repulse was complete and the casualties small simply because of the promptness, courage, and energy of these batteries. But for them, instead of being characterized as a small affair, it would have been

one of the most disastrous affairs of the war. At the same time it is proper to state that General Ewell appeared on the field with the greatest alacrity, exerted himself in bringing up the infantry promptly, and all his arrangements reflected great credit upon him, and the results show that the tactics, generalship, and admirable discipline of the army are so much improved as to overcome the disadvantages of unavoidable surprises.

If young Saunders is under eighteen he can be received into the First Howitzers; if older, perhaps an arrangement can be made for bringing him into the company by exchange. Let him apply at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. CABELL,
*Colonel of Artillery.*

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HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. HAMPTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to call your attention to General Orders, No. 14, headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, a copy of which is inclosed.*

Nothing could give a more certain promise of the final, the speedy success of our cause and the independence of our country than the movement inaugurated by the men of our armies, declaring to our enemies that the spirit of resistance to tyranny is as strong, nay, stronger, in our hearts to-day than when we first took up arms to resist invasion, and depriving them of their last hope and argument that disorganization and disaffection in our armies would give us over to them an easy prey. I well know that the patriotic spirit of the cavalry is not inferior to that of any portion of our army.

The veterans of so many hard-fought fields, men whose sacrifices for their country's sake have been so great, cannot at this hour be cold or listless. I only ask for an expression of those noble sentiments that the grand acclaim now re-echoed from regiment to regiment, from corps to corps, from the army of the East to the army of the West, may meet with a response from the men of your command. The men of Hampton's division, representing in States almost the entire confederation, will unite their voices to those of their comrades in arms in this swelling chorus, and go in for the war. Lomax's brigade, of Lee's division, has re-enlisted for the war; the Seventh and Eleventh Regiments, Rosser's brigade, of your command, have done the same, and I feel assured the rest of your gallant division will soon follow the example.

Very respectfully,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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WINCHESTER, VA., *February* 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY:

DEAR GENERAL: You have my sincere thanks for the prompt and satisfactory reply to my communication to the commanding general up the valley (being ignorant at the time whether it was yourself or General Imboden).

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*See p. 1144.

The sentence relating to the ground of Dooly's arrest was communicated to General [Colonel] Rodgers, from whom I received last evening the inclosed reply. He handed it to me in person, having come up with the troops, which seem to be now about returning. After reading the letter, I said to him that it was impossible for either Dr. Boyd or myself to certify anything in the matter of our own knowledge; for instance, the genuineness of the paper from General Sullivan. He said, "That is not required; we know the paper is not genuine. General Sullivan has only been in command since October, and says that he has never given such a paper or employed Dooly in any way." I remarked that why he (Dooly) should then have such a paper—forged—about his person was to my mind utterly inexplicable. He asserted, adding that the fact of Dooly's having such a paper in his possession would entirely change our (their) relations toward him; they only wanted to ascertain that fact. I said that my inference from your letter was that you had seen the papers. He said they did not so understand it; that your certificate would of course be satisfactory. I then promised to procure, as soon as practicable, a copy of the paper, and such evidence as we might that the same was actually taken from the person of Dooly, or so acknowledged by him.

In the course of the conversation, upon my remark that it was notorious here whilst Milroy was in command that Dooly was in his employ, Colonel Rodgers said that Milroy had been in Martinsburg lately, and expressly denied the fact. You may gather from the foregoing what is required from us, and with the concurrence of Dr. Boyd (who is now with me) I must beg leave to impose upon you the trouble to have it furnished, as we have difficulty in communicating directly with Richmond, and the necessary evidence is probably most accessible to you. A certificate from Major Gilmor or yourself that the paper (of which a correct copy would be annexed) was actually found upon D.'s person, or so admitted, at the time of the capture would suffice.

Very truly and respectfully, yours, &c.,

ROB. Y. CONRAD.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA,
*Martinsburg, February* 12, 1864.

ROBERT Y. CONRAD, Esq.,
*Winchester, Va.:*

SIR: I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, containing an extract of a letter from General Early, in which he states that unquestionable evidence of the fact of Mr. William Dooly being in the secret service of the United States was found on his person, consisting of the following papers: "Authority from General Sullivan to pass through the lines on secret service," &c. I have submitted your letter to Brigadier-General Sullivan, commanding this division, and he instructs me to say to you that if you produce a copy of the said authority for secret service, certified to by yourself and Dr. Boyd, or either of you, you will both be released from your parole.

ROBT. S. RODGERS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, February* 14, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I received yesterday your letter of the 11th, in reply to mine of the 4th instant. You misunderstood my meaning if you supposed I desired the President to retain me in command of this department when he thought the interest of the service would be promoted by removing me. I knew that efforts had been made by men of local influence in the department to have me removed, and I had good reason to believe they had represented that a change would be agreeable to me. I only desired that the order relieving me should not be issued under any misapprehension. I was quite sure, and so expressed myself to others, that the President would not remove me unless he was convinced that the best interest of the service would be thereby promoted.

I recognize to the fullest extent that it is the right and duty of the President to assign officers to duty in the way best calculated to promote the public interest. He is the proper and rightful judge in all such cases, and I have the utmost confidence in his judgment. And whilst I sincerely regret that my administration of the trust confided in me has not given more general satisfaction, I have no disposition whatever to complain because the President has determined to confide it to another, whom he thinks better adapted to secure the confidence of the people and promote the essential ends of the command.

I sincerely hope the distinguished officer and statesman who has been selected to relieve me will succeed in the accomplishment of the end proposed.

I may be permitted to say that I entered upon this command with reluctance, as I believe you and the President know, and my chief reason for reluctance was the general impression that not one of the many officers who had preceded me, not even General Lee, had given satisfaction to the people, and I doubted if any one who administered the affairs of the department with an eye single to the general good of the service, regardless of local interests and influences, could give satisfaction to those who assume to express the opinions and wishes of the people.

Though it seems I have not the confidence of the people, I have the satisfaction of knowing that whilst I have contributed largely, considering the strength of my command, to re-enforce the Army of Northern Virginia, and was somewhat instrumental in checking the advance of the enemy through East Tennessee, when that department was abandoned, my own department has experienced no serious reverse, and that my troops now occupy all the territory they occupied when I entered on the command, more than fourteen months since.

I await the orders of the President, feeling confident that he will not assign me to any duty which I will not perform cheerfully and to the best of my ability.

With my thanks for the very kind terms in which you have communicated to me the President's intentions, I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 16, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Second indorsement.]

Read and returned to the Secretary of War.

The expressions of General Jones are such as I anticipated from him, and he may be assured that I appreciate the embarrassments which have surrounded him and the zeal and fidelity with which he has acted.

J. D.

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 15, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

The following troops have re-enlisted for the war since announcement of 10th instant: Lane's brigade, Wright's brigade, Perrin's brigade, Davis' brigade, Seventh Virginia Cavalry, Eleventh Virginia Cavalry, Thirteenth North Carolina Troops, Eleventh North Carolina Troops, Forty-eighth Virginia Infantry, Garnett's, Poague's, Haskell's, and Pegram's battalions of artillery. The following, having enlisted originally for the war, have reiterated their determination to continue in service: Cutts' battalion of artillery, McGowan's brigade, and Fourteenth Alabama Regiment.

R. E. LEE.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 15, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I have caused lists to be prepared of the absentees from this army, with a view to adopt measures to bring back as many of the able-bodied as possible before the opening of the spring campaign. The reports from three divisions have been sent in—Early's division, 3,227; Rodes', 4,102; Johnson's, 4,054; and reported by medical officers as absent from artillery of Second Corps, 227; giving a total 11,610. Some of these are prisoners, some deserters, others at home permanently disabled, and others properly detailed. Many of them, however, are absent at the hospitals, either as patients or nurses, ward-masters, clerks, &c.; many more detailed as disabled men in conscript camps and Government workshops. I propose to send a commission, consisting of Surg. R. J. Breckinridge, medical inspector Army of Northern Virginia, Surg. R. T. Coleman, Ewell's corps, and Surg. S. W. Langton, Hill's corps, to the hospitals in Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia, with the authority to send back to the army all of these patients or detailed men who are fit for field service, and to report on those detailed on Government works or in conscript camps, whether their places may not be supplied by men now disabled. In order to give due authority to the commission, I respectfully request that it be appointed by

an order from the Department. I hope you will take speedy action in this matter, as it is a matter of extreme importance to get every able-bodied man back to the field as soon as we can.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 19, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Issue proper orders to sanction commission named.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary of War.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.
*February* 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY, *Commanding Valley District:*

GENERAL: Your letters of the 12th and 13th have been received. I do not know Manzy. Langley came to me once indorsed by Major Gilmor. Unless you can satisfy yourself they are true I wish to have nothing to do with them. Langley appeared to be zealous, and said he had been at one time employed by General Jackson. He came, I think, to General Hill when we were in Maryland with some information. He has a pass from the enemy. I consequently directed that he should not come to the army, but must give his information to the officer in the lower valley. I do not think either Generals Hill or Stuart know more of him than I do. When last here he was paid $200 in Northern funds and $500 in Southern, for current expenses. It was before Christmas. Recently he has written to General Hill for $1,000 of the first and $1,500 of the latter. He professed not to want pay for services, but only enough to defray his expenses. Before I can make any arrangements with him I must know more about them. Can you ascertain? Colonel Pendleton is not here now. I am glad to hear that the enemy has not reoccupied Petersburg, and that the report published in their papers of having recaptured Rosser's prisoners is untrue. I stated in a former letter that I desired you to return to your division as soon as you had arranged matters in the valley to the best advantage. I think you might manage to go to your home for a short time, and to be there the first Monday in March. You must write to me before you go, stating the condition of things, and also your post-office while absent, that I may inform you should your presence here be wanted. I have written to the Secretary of War in reference to Rosser's nomination. I am glad that you have disposed of the cattle, wagons, &c. One of the objects in sending Rosser to the valley was to enable him to recruit his horses and men and add to their numbers. I regret to hear that the hoof disease has appeared among the former. I fear it has been occasioned by hard work or too much grain. It was not my intention to put them at the ordinary duty, but merely to use them in cases of attack or emergency. I hoped that Imboden's men would have been competent for the general guard and picket duty, and would have exhibited more than ordinary firmness in consequence of the supporting force within reach. As soon as you can, I desire you to relieve Rosser of picket duty, that his whole attention may be devoted to recuperating his command, which will be wanted for hard service in the spring. Those men who brought the false alarm

of the enemy being in Edinburg ought to be punished. It is the only way to correct such evils and to give quiet to the other troops and citizens. False reports keep the whole country in a state of alarm; do much mischief. Thomas' and Walker's brigades can remain where they are for the present, and I desire you to look closely to their comfort and discipline.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Orange Court-House, February* 15, 1864.

General A. ELZEY, *Comdg. Department of Richmond:*

GENERAL: I have received your letters of the 12th and 13th instant. The inclosed reports of your scouts I should think entirely unreliable, the smallest number given being at least six times the strength of the enemy; the larger, twelve times. If re-enforcements are constantly arriving at Yorktown, where do they come from? They do not descend the Potomac, and I doubt whether any arrive save contrabands and furloughed men. As many are seen going up the Potomac as down. The enemy always exaggerate their numbers. Can you not obtain scouts who will examine for themselves and sift all information received before reporting it? Exalted statements do much harm. I wish you had a sufficient regular force around Richmond. I know no place from which it can be drawn except Charleston. Pickett ought to rejoin Longstreet next month, and it is my wish to send him to him. The troops of this army, independent of Longstreet's corps, are scattered from North Carolina to the valley, which, besides being deleterious to discipline, is injurious to the service and hazardous to the country. I wish to recall them all in March. There is not accommodation at Hanover Junction for more than one brigade, and wood is scarce for that. I can leave one brigade there for a short time and will recall General Rodes with the other. A snow-storm is now commencing, which I fear will add to their suffering and discomfort. If troops are accumulating at Williamsburg they must be drawn from some other part of Butler's department and you must endeavor to find out, so that our troops may make corresponding movements. I believe the recent demonstration on the Peninsula was intended to assist the escape of their prisoners, who had in some way contrived to give notice of their intended attempt.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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PETERSBURG, *February* 15, 1864.

Major-General ELZEY:

Causey recrossed last night and reports as follows: The force which Butler sent up the Peninsula last week, under Wistar, Heckman, and Graham, numbering about 7,000 or 8,000, have returned to the vicinity of Fortress Monroe. Some have already left for New Berne, while others are awaiting transportation. Butler now is personally superintending the sale of confiscated lands in York, Warwick, and Elizabeth Counties.

MILLIGAN.

PETERSBURG, VA., *February* 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. ARNOLD ELZEY,
*Commanding Department, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: My scouts from near Norfolk report as follows:

There are three generals in command on the south side. Barnes has command in the two cities (Norfolk and Portsmouth); Wild of all the negro troops, which number about 3,500 or 4,000. One regiment of negro infantry left Portsmouth on Thursday in transports; destination unknown. Heckman has a full brigade of white troops—two Connecticut regiments, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Twentieth New York Cavalry, and four batteries of four guns each of light artillery. At Bernard's Mills there are some 150 men of the Fifth Pennsylvania and Twentieth New York Cavalry, under the command of a Major Preston. No white soldiers are on duty in the cities; the negroes are having full sway. They are evidently expecting our boats down. All the Northern laborers in the navy-yard have gone home; a number of sutlers also. They are perfectly unprepared for our boats, and I hardly think they would make much resistance. There are scarcely any vessels in the Roads. They expect an advance from us by North Carolina and Suffolk. Their whole force is little over 8,000, and the majority of them are negroes. At their first line of intrenchments (Manlove's Hill, near Portsmouth) they have a very good battery of heavy artillery. The light artillery is near Gettysville, General Heckman's headquarters. The small-pox is very bad in the cities. The pest-house for both cities is in or near Norfolk. All cases have to be carried over in the ferry from Portsmouth to Norfolk. They are now enrolling all the citizens in the Beast's department, preparatory to drafting. I was within a mile of them yesterday, when they were enrolling some citizens near Bennett's pasture. All is quiet on the Nansemond, Chuckatuck, and Pagan Creek. The gun-boats are a little shy of us. I ran the Flora Temple off with 4 men.

J. C. NOSWORTHY,
*Sergeant, Independent Signal Corps.*

The above report can be credited, as Sergeant Nosworthy is a young man of unblemished integrity, possessing every merit of a soldier. My opinion is that the whole force in Butler's department is not much over 20,000, all told, if that.

Your obedient servant,

JAS. F. MILLIGAN,
*Major, Signal Officer.*

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HANOVER JUNCTION, *February* 15, 1864.

Major-General ELZEY:

Battle's men will suffer terribly in this weather; if possible, please send them up to their cabins here.

R. E. RODES,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF HENRICO,
*Richmond, February* 15, 1864.

Major-General ELZEY, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the Adjutant and Inspector General to say that Colonel O'Neal's regiment will furnish the guard necessary to convey the prisoners to Camp Sumter, Ga.* They will be forwarded in squads of about 400, and one company will be required for each detachment. When the railroad company can be heard from I will notify you of the time at which the first can be started.

Very respectfully,

JNO. H. WINDER,
*Brigadier-General.*

* Swanson's (Alabama) regiment assigned to Battle's brigade, in place of O'Neal's, by Special Orders, No. 36, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, February 12, 1864.

HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, February* 15, 1864.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: There is one thing in connection with my request, often urged lately, for another brigade at this place which is very important; that is, the rapidly deteriorating condition of our transportation. To move troops now to my aid, if attacked, requires now twice the time it did one year ago, when I was threatened by Foster's expedition from Beaufort, and three times as long as was needed in the beginning of the war. Twenty-four hours at any time suffices to put the enemy in front of me by sea. As to land, my column from this place captured the enemy's position at Sheppardsville, 110 miles from here, equidistant with New Berne, crossing two rivers on the fourth day of their march. It is reasonable to suppose the enemy can move by land as fast as we can. Last year, when 5,000 men were sent me from General Beauregard, they were one week in arriving from Charleston, 200 miles by railroad. Wilmington was saved then by the diversion of the enemy's attack to Charleston, due altogether to the feeling produced by Flag-Officer Ingraham's attack on the enemy's squadron off Charleston, their expedition, as is now well ascertained, having been intended for this place. In our present condition, the length of time taken to concentrate at Goldsborough for the late expedition shows, I think, conclusively that we ought not to trust entirely to our ability to relieve this place by railroad in case of emergency. It must be recollected further that this place has now become the great cotton depot and the entrepôt for a very large part of the supplies of the Army of Virginia. In case of emergency, then, all transportation but that of troops must cease, which will greatly embarrass the situation. This, added to the fact that re-enforcements can hardly arrive in time, and that my force is entirely inadequate to hold the enemy at bay, is surely a strong reason for placing beforehand a brigade at my disposal. I will not discuss the vast importance of this command; every one is aware of that. The single brigade asked for now is very far short of the forces which will be required, and that, indeed, together with the one now here, will make a less force than what I have always considered necessary as a permanent garrison for so vital a point as this. Will you be good enough to lay these considerations, which I do not think have been heretofore urged, especially the matter of transportation, before the President?

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 19, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War, in connection with the one I submitted two days since from the same source.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 21, 1864.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL:

Note General Whiting's remarks about transportation. Are there no means of remedying these delays?

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

[Third indorsement.]

RAILROAD BUREAU,
*Richmond, February* 24, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Quartermaster-General.

The only remedy that suggests itself for these delays is increasing the rolling-stock. This can be done if a full force of mechanics are detailed from the Army to put the Petersburg iron-works up to their full capacity for production. It can also be largely benefited by more liberal details from the Army for service in the railroad machine-shops, who could repair cars and engines now broken down.

F. W. SIMS,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*February* 29, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Secretary of War, whose attention is invited to the views of Colonel Sims, which are approved.

The delays in transportation are caused, first, by the deterioration of rolling-stock; second, by the fact that corn is now brought from Georgia to Virginia to support the armies here (which was not the case last year); and, third, by the frequent interference of commanding officers with our limited and overburdened transportation. The remedy for the first and last mentioned difficulties lies with the Secretary of War. As suggested by Colonel Sims, the second must continue, but will be greatly alleviated by removing the first and third.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL:

Recommend the details necessary for the Petersburg railroad shops.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

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[No. 20.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Virginia troops stationed at Drewry's Bluff.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the communication of Maj. Francis W. Smith, commanding a battalion of Virginia artillery, stationed at Drewry's Bluff, composed of United Artillery, Capt. Thomas Kevill; Johnston Artillery, Capt. B. J. Epes; Neblett Artillery, Capt. W. G. Coleman, and Southside Artillery, Capt. J. W. Drewry, announcing their voluntary re-enlistment for the war, is hailed with pleasure by Congress, as an evidence of unfaltering devotion to the cause of liberty and independence, and of stern determination to resist to the utmost the wicked purposes of a relentless and merciless foe.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and men of this command for their gallant and patriotic conduct "in unanimously re-enlisting for the war under such regulations as Congress may prescribe."

Approved February 15, 1864.

[No. 21.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-eighth and Thirteenth Regiments of North Carolina Troops.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress and of the country are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and men of the Twenty-eighth and Thirteenth Regiments of North Carolina Troops, who have so gallantly revolunteered for the war, and have pledged themselves, their lives and fortunes, never to lay down their arms until our soil is freed from the invading foe and our independence obtained.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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[No. 22.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of the Third Georgia Regiment.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby, through its representatives in Congress, tendered, to the officers and men of the Third Georgia Regiment, who were the first to leave their State to battle on the soil of Virginia, whose gallant dead have been left on many of her historic battle-fields, and which entire regiment to a man have cheerfully and unanimously re-enlisted for the war, heroically resolving that as they were among the first to take up arms in the cause of liberty and independence they will be the last to lay them down.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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[No. 23.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-second Virginia Regiment.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby gratefully tendered, to the officers and men of the gallant Twenty-second Regiment of Virginia Infantry for their noble zeal and patriotism in re-enlisting for the war.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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[No. 24.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to Hart's battery, Hampton Legion, South Carolina Volunteers.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are hereby tendered to Hart's battery, Hampton Legion, South Carolina Volunteers, for their gallant and patriotic resolution, recently adopted, to re-enlist for the war.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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[No. 25.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are hereby tendered to the officers and men of the Sixteenth Regiment of Mississippi Troops, Col. Samuel E. Baker commanding, for their patriotic resolution, recently adopted, to re-enlist for the war.

Approved February 15, 1864.

[No. 28.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of the Seventh and Twelfth Regiments of Virginia Troops.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks are due, and are hereby heartily tendered, to the Seventh and Twelfth Regiments Virginia Cavalry for the patriotic and indomitable spirit they have displayed in so promptly re-enlisting for the war, and that they have entitled themselves to the lasting gratitude of their country in thus renewing their vows of consecration to the sacred cause of Southern independence.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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[No. 29.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of Lomax's brigade.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of the Congress are due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to the gallant troops of Lomax's cavalry brigade for their patriotic example in re-enlisting for the war, and that the lofty and determined spirit they have displayed in thus dedicating themselves afresh to the cause of independence will entitle them to the lasting gratitude of their country.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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[No. 31.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to certain Virginia regiments who have re-enlisted for the war.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and men of the Sixty-first Virginia Regiment of Infantry and the Fifth Virginia Regiment of Cavalry for having patriotically, and in a spirit of self-sacrificing devotion, re-enlisted for the war.

SEC. 2. *Resolved*, That a record of these proceedings be forthwith furnished to the troops composing the above-named regiments.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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[No. 33.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Fifteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirtieth Regiments of North Carolina Troops for their patriotic devotion in re-enlisting for the war.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are tendered to the Fifteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirtieth Regiments of North Carolina Troops for their patriotic devotion to our cause in re-enlisting for the war.

Approved February 15, 1864.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 16, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
*Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: The vital importance of the subject of food for the Army and my own anxiety induce me to trouble you with a repetition of a suggestion I made some time since, but about which I have not been favored with the views of the Department. I fear that the discipline

of the army is suffering from our present scarcity of supplies, and am sure that you will agree with me in the opinion that there is no sacrifice too great to preserve its efficiency.

I had the honor to suggest to you that meat, and perhaps other articles of necessity, could be obtained by offering cotton and tobacco in exchange for them. This is, I believe, especially true of the border counties of the State. Those people have no currency, and can only supply their necessities by barter. They will not receive Confederate money, because they can do nothing with it, and it is idle to attempt to get their produce from them by impressment; but I feel confident that they would cheerfully bring forward whatever they have in exchange for cotton and tobacco, particularly the former.

They stand in great need of it for making clothing, and it would also serve as a means for buying what they do not make. I do not consider the objection that some of this cotton would find its way to the enemy as worthy of being weighed against the benefits that we would derive from adequate supplies of articles of prime necessity to the Army, for it is the latter we should now be satisfied is our only dependence. A letter recently received from a gentleman in the lower valley, who has our success much at heart, gives assurance that the experiment will succeed there. He represents the want of cotton yarns as very urgent, and says that if the Government will send 100,000 pounds of those yarns to New Market they can readily be exchanged at the rate of 1 pound of cotton for 2 of cured bacon. He says that the supplies of that region are now finding their way to the enemy in exchange for what the people absolutely require and have no other means of purchasing. Interest and their own inclinations will induce them to trade more readily with us, and he thinks the moral effect would be good. His suggestions do not purport to be theoretical, but to be the result of observation of the wants of his neighbors, who appear to need cotton as much as we do meat.

I respectfully ask that the experiment be made to the extent above mentioned, and we will then be able to form a better opinion of the merits of the plan, and can extend it or put an end to it, as circumstances may direct.

I shall be very glad to have your views on the subject, as something must be done, and I can suggest no better plan.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *February* 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. E. RODES, *Hanover Junction:*

Battle's brigade goes by Fredericksburg railroad to Hanover Junction. Central road unable at present to furnish transportation to Orange. Superintendent Whitcomb will communicate with you.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

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[No. 35.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Fifteenth and Twenty-seventh Regiments of North Carolina Troops, Cooke's brigade.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America,* That the re-enlistment of the Fifteenth and Twenty-seventh Regi-

ments of North Carolina Troops, Cooke's brigade, is a grateful testimony of devotion to the great cause of Southern independence, and entitles them to the thanks of Congress and the country.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of Congress are hereby tendered to the officers and men of said regiments for their noble and patriotic conduct in re-enlisting for the war.

Approved February 16, 1864.

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[No. 36.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Ninth Alabama Regiment.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That Congress hails with delight the manifestations evinced by the brave and gallant officers and privates of the Ninth Regiment Alabama Volunteers, who have stood under the fire of the enemy for near three years, never to yield to Northern oppression, and for this act of patriotism and exalted self-sacrifice in re-enlisting for the war the thanks of Congress and the country are eminently due them. That the example of those brave men who have endured the dangers and perils of the war since its commencement is a happy omen for the future, and should encourage Congress and the country to rest with an abiding hope and confidence in the success of our arms and the final triumph of liberty, under the lead of those brave and unconquerable spirits.

Approved Febuary 16, 1864.

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[FEBRUARY 17, 1864.—For Lee to Longstreet, relating to operations in East Tennessee and Kentucky, &c., see Vol. XXXII, Part II, p. 760.]

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HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
*February* 17, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit to you a brief statement of certain facts concerning our horse infirmary and horse supply department, ascertained in a visit I have just made to Lynchburg, the headquarters of that department, and through conference with Major Paxton, who has charge of that important branch of service.

First. I was sorry to find that disease exists quite extensively at the several groups of stables from Lynchburg to the North Carolina line. Cases of the disease I saw in several stages, some just proving fatal, some mildly in progress, some almost recovered from. The judgment of Major Paxton and attendants is, that horses in good condition when attacked generally recover without much reduction, while those that take the disease when feeble often die. Of the 3,000 in stable, 600 or 700 have died. Great care seems taken to guard against the spreading of the disorder, and good hope may be entertained of checking it. But I think the very best veterinary skill in the country ought to be secured as soon as possible, to guard against a great mischief in this important interest.

Second. The system pursued by Major Paxton in parceling, protecting, foraging, and improving his animals seems very good. He

has really accomplished wonders in a limited time, and will, I hope, successfully deal with the many difficulties inherent in such a charge, and greatly aggravated by the circumstances of our position.

Third. In the operation of securing new horses he is also, I think, acting with energy and judgment. He has no doubt of being able tolerably early in the spring to furnish us all the artillery horses we may then need, and keep up a reasonable supply. But the just apportionment of this drain of animals from the counties, and the procurement of them so as not to weaken agricultural force nor dissatisfy the people, requires great care and much time.

Fourth. The question when animals should be in readiness to be called for and used he might therefore well have such intimation upon as may be deemed prudent. He mentioned to me that Major Johnston had indicated 1,500 as likely to be needed by 1st March, but that with the disease existing he does not consider it possible to have so many fit for service this early. My own judgment is that we had better not draw out the artillery horses we shall need until the season approaches for active operations.

Fifth. The chief difficulty he apprehends is not as to a supply of the 1,000 or so of artillery horses we shall want, but respecting animals for transportation. He seems familiar with the statistics of mules in the different States, and considers it important to be authorized to have access with his experienced agents to Mississippi, &c. His brother, who is charged there with duties similar to his own here, has not, he believes, such experience of the difficulties involved as to enable him to obtain in time all that will be needed; and besides, while Virginia has been so greatly reduced in number of mules, great numbers have been run from Tennessee into portions of Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, and it is alike just and wise that some of our needs be thence supplied. If you approve of this, a word from yourself to Major Cole in Richmond might be of value. My own views I will communicate to him immediately on these several points.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
*Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 17, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Col. A. H. Cole for his information.

I had previously directed that neither horses nor mules be brought forward before active operations became imminent. The suggestion of getting mules from the south is good.

R. E. LEE.

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[No. 38.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of Poague's artillery battalion for re-enlisting during the war.

Whereas Poague's artillery battalion, Third Army Corps, Northern Virginia, has patriotically re-enlisted to serve during the war: Therefore,

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress and of the country are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and men of said battalion for this act of noble and patriotic devotion to the cause in which we are engaged.

Approved February 17, 1864.

[No. 39.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Pee Dee Artillery of South Carolina Volunteers.

Whereas the Pee Dee Artillery of South Carolina Volunteers, early in the present struggle for Southern independence, tendered their services to the Government for the period of the war, and have recently renewed their pledge to serve their country until the last invader is driven from our soil: Therefore,

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are cordially tendered, to the Pee Dee Artillery of South Carolina Volunteers for their patriotic re-enlistment for the war.

Approved February 17, 1864.

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[No. 40.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of McGowan's brigade, consisting of Orr's Rifles, the First, Twelfth, Thirteenth, and Fourteenth Regiments of South Carolina Volunteers.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to Orr's Rifles, the First, Twelfth, Thirteenth, and Fourteenth Regiments South Carolina Volunteers, composing McGowan's brigade, for their patriotic devotion to the cause of Southern independence, as manifested by their recent action, unanimously reiterating their determination to serve during the war. In thus renewing their pledges, after nearly three years of arduous and gallant service, they have met the expectation of their country, and are entitled to its approbation.

Approved February 17, 1864.

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[No. 47.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the officers and men of the Thirty-seventh Regiment of North Carolina Troops.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, That the thanks of Congress and the country are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and men of the Thirty-seventh Regiment of North Carolina Troops for their gallant conduct in revolunteering for the war.

Approved February 17, 1864.

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[No. 49.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Surry Light Artillery.

*The Congress of the Confederate States of America do resolve*, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to the enlisted men of the Surry Light Artillery, Capt. J. D. Hankins, for their patriotic resolutions adopted on the 9th day of February, 1864, and for their manifestation of zeal in our struggle, and devotion to their country's cause, by re-enlisting for the war.

Approved February 17, 1864.

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[FEBRUARY 18, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, relating to Longstreet's operations in East Tennessee, see Vol. XXXII, Part II, p. 766.]

HEADQUARTERS, *February* 18, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States, Richmond:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have received the dispatch forwarded to me to-day from General Longstreet, requesting 10,000 men to insure the capture of Knoxville.* I have no information of the practicability of the plan. I think it may be assumed that its defenses are stronger now than when it was last attacked, and an attempt to capture it by assault would not only be hazardous but attended with great loss of life. To reduce it by approaches would require time and, it seems to me at this distance, render necessary an army sufficient to defeat a relieving force that, now the railroad to Chattanooga has been opened, could be quickly sent from Grant's troops. If a movement could be made to cut off supplies from Knoxville it would draw out the garrison, and this appears to me the wiser course. Could supplies be sent if troops were? For without the former the latter would be unavailing. I wrote to-day to the Secretary of War suggesting that Pickett's division be sent to him in the spring and that a brigade of Buckner's now at Dalton be returned to its division at once. I see by the Northern papers that General Gillmore and Admiral Dahlgren have gone to Florida, carrying three brigades with them. This reduces the force operating against Charleston. General Longstreet is under the impression that Sedgwick's corps has been withdrawn from Meade's army and sent to Knoxville. A division of it was sent to Harper's Ferry at the time of General Early's descent upon Petersburg, and a brigade was sent to Johnson's Island when the alarm was spread of a congregation of a force at Point Pelee in Canada. I cannot discover that any other troops have been sent from the Rappahannock, and my instructions to the scouts are to be particularly watchful, both here and on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; still they may be deceived. It is reported in the Northern papers that Longstreet has been re-enforced. If a portion of Meade's army is sent west a part of this could be withdrawn. I would not think it wise if it is not, as we are now greatly outnumbered. It is very important to repossess ourselves of Tennessee, as also to take the initiative before our enemies are prepared to open the campaign. My information is restricted entirely to my own front, and I can do nothing for want of proper supplies. With these and effective horses I think I could disturb the quiet of the enemy and drive him to the Potomac.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. ELZEY,
*Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: General Hampton has written me of the effects of the late hard march to the Peninsula upon his command. The injury done to the troops morally and physically by movements at this season is so great that I beg leave to call your attention again to the

* See Longstreet to Cooper, February 17, Vol. XXXII, Part II, p. 759.

importance of having scouts who can be relied upon, and of weighing well the rumors and reports brought in by pickets and citizens before attaching any importance to them or sending them abroad. Pickets or scouts bringing in false or exaggerated rumors should be severely punished. Nothing so shakes the confidence of the people and the troops, nor has a greater tendency to render those on outpost duty careless and inefficient,

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
*Commanding Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: General Lee bids me say that he has received your letter of February 12, through General Stuart.

He thinks you did right to wait for further information before moving your command under the circumstances. He has been very much annoyed by the false alarms from Richmond, and the distress which it has caused among the men and horses in moving during the winter season.

He regrets to hear of the reduced condition of your command, and has again and again urged upon the Department the different propositions for recruiting it before the coming campaign. Your plan of keeping a mobile force somewhere in King William ready to fall upon the flank and rear of the enemy should he advance again meets with his approval. The want of troops is the chief difficulty. The only troops available for this purpose will be such dismounted men as you can spare from your command and Col. Bradley T. Johnson's Maryland Line. A sufficient [number] of flota might be built on the Pamunkey or procured from Richmond from the Engineer Bureau. He will be glad to have you make the personal reconnaissance in that country of which you speak.

Colonel Johnson reported the incompleteness of the works around Hanover Junction, when he was ordered there, and it was hoped that they had been pushed to completion since. He will endeavor to have something done in the matter.

The general commanding will write to General Elzey and the Engineer Bureau.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
*Major and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT,
*Commanding Department of Southern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter of February 15, with the accompanying copy of the report of your operations near New Berne.* I regret the failure to capture the place, and have written to General Cooper, requesting him to order an investi-

*See p. 92.

gation of the want of co-operation on the part of General Barton. I think such an investigation is due to that officer and to the country. I am glad that the forces under your immediate command accomplished their work so handsomely and with such good results.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 18, 1864.

General S. COOPER, *Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Richmond:*

GENERAL: I have received from Major-General Pickett a copy of the report of his late operations near New Berne, forwarded by him to the Department. In this report he asks an investigation of the want of co-operation on the part of General Barton. He expresses the opinion that General Barton should have advanced at the same time with the forces under Generals Hoke and Corse. I would respectfully suggest that the investigation be ordered at once, as it is due to General Barton and to the country.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 20, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

Perhaps it is due to General Barton, under the circumstances, that he should have the benefit of a court of inquiry.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 22, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

I had expected to await General Barton's report, but as it has not come in, order the court of inquiry, as recommended.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 18, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: I am much concerned at the number of desertions that have occurred in the Louisiana brigade, Johnson's division, of this army. They began before the last movement of the enemy across the Rappahannock. I have conversed with General Ewell and General Johnson on the subject, and no cause for it is known. Some cases have also occurred among the North Carolina troops. The men desert while on picket, and are supposed to join the enemy. The reports of the last cases are inclosed.* Every attention is given to the wants of the men and every effort made to supply them with food and clothing.

The Louisiana brigade in which this evil exists is commanded by General Stafford. He is now absent on leave, having gone to Rich-

* Not found.

mond to have an operation performed, when he obtained a furlough for sixty days. I am anxious for his return, hoping it may produce some change in the disposition of his men. His leave of absence will expire about the 1st of March, but if he is in the vicinity of Richmond, I should like him to return at once.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
*Louisa Court-House, February* 18, 1864.

Maj. A. H. COLE,
*Superintendent of Transportation, &c., Richmond:*

MAJOR: I find it likely to promote the interests of the service for me to communicate to you some news derived from my recent examination of Major Paxton's arrangements at Lynchburg, and conference with him respecting our prospects with regard to artillery arrivals.

First. You are already aware of the serious extent to which disease is affecting the animals under Major Paxton's care. I was sorry to learn from him that out of some 3,000 he had lost 600 or 700. I saw specimens of those diseased in the stables near Lynchburg, in several stages, some just dying, some still feeble but getting better, and some said to have been seriously sick but now nearly, if not quite, well. Major Paxton and the attendants consider that horses in good condition when attacked generally get well, while those previously reduced are very apt to die. These facts indicate that the disease is not in all cases glanders, if in any. Great care is taken to remove all animals affected as soon as suspicion is excited, and by cleansing, fumigating, &c., to prevent the spread of the disease. I think it all-important, however, that the best veterinary skill be secured as soon as possible, or we may suffer incalculable mischief. It is believed by the battalion commanders, where ravages of the same disease have been experienced, that it was introduced among them by horses brought to them from the supply stables. It may thus be diffused through the army and cripple us for active operations. The most thorough remedial measures cannot therefore be taken too soon.

Second. Major Paxton's general arrangements struck me as very good, alike in regard to his system of accommodation, his measures for foraging, and his plan for obtaining new animals. Judgment and energy seem to characterize his proceedings. Much has certainly been accomplished, for the time, and he is likely to achieve all that can, under the circumstances, be done. I found him well posted as to the statistics of the country in his line, and laborious in exacting duty from others while discharging his own.

Third. He has good hope of meeting, at an early day, our needs in artillery horses. He thinks he can furnish by April, certainly by May, all we may require. He does not think he could have ready for service by 1st March the 1,500 animals Major Johnston informed him he must have prepared by that date. The operation of purchasing is necessarily slow, because the impressment must be so conducted as not to dissatisfy the people under the smart of injustice, nor to impair the agricultural force of the country. His views and efforts in this matter seem to me satisfactory.

Fourth. His chief anxiety is respecting transportation animals. Mules he deems essential as our chief dependence. With the statistics of these in the several States he shows familiarity. Our supply cannot be obtained, he thinks, in Virginia and North Carolina, drained as these States have been all along. Much more [can] be done in the matter in Mississippi and the other States coterminous with Tennessee, as from this latter numbers have been run out into the others. His brother, operating in Mississippi as he is in Virginia, has not the experience in this business, expert as he otherwise is, to get up animals enough in time, nor will those he gets probably furnish any to this army. Hence he deems it important that he be allowed to obtain through certain of his own agents some supply of these animals in Mississippi, &c. This seems to me reasonable under all the circumstances. I mention it for your consideration, that you may, if approving, give the requisite authority.

Fifth. He considers that injury must result to the animals under his charge and to the general service under his direction from the change in the original plans for him, by which North Carolina has been put under other officers. In this I concur with him, for two reasons: (1) Unless he can forage, &c., in that State, the depots of horses near its border cannot be conveniently, if at all, supplied with forage, &c. (2) His judgment, energy, and business qualifications would enable him, I am sure, to have the whole better done, with unity of plan, than will be achieved under different heads, and to some extent adverse administrations. I fear you will not find much accomplished in North Carolina under the separate administration adopted.

Sixth. There is danger of losing much of his zeal, if not his agency altogether, in this work, from the dissatisfaction with which he regards the change in his position. He supposed, he tells me, that he was to be chief in his department, and responsible directly to yourself, having under him the whole operation for the supply of animals in Virginia and North Carolina. This was, he considers, the understanding with which he accepted the charge. He now finds himself placed under the orders of Major Johnston, deprived of half his sphere of action, and expected to meet demands for which his original jurisdiction and his untrammeled energy would not be more than adequate. Of course I do not undertake to decide the merits of the question. I give you the state of the case as in Major Paxton's mind. He is certainly sore. Whether Major Johnston really ranks him I do not know. If he does not, Paxton's subordination to him is in fact a grievance. If he does, P. may still object that his position is not what he agreed to accept, and this he does allege. He wants to have charge of his own department, so that if there be efficiency he may get the credit; if reward at any time, he may not be so far down as to have it appropriated by others. In thus presenting the case I am in part complying with his request.

These particulars, except the last, I have also submitted in a statement to General Lee, without, however, indicating anything respecting the setting off of North Carolina under another head.

I hope among you all we may have such renovation of animals as to enable our armies to accomplish all the country needs next campaign.

I am, major, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,

*Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 41. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February* 18, 1864.

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XXVI. The First Regiment Engineer Troops, Lieut. Col. T. M. R. Talcott commanding, will report to Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, for assignment to temporary duty as prison guard.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 19, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Since dispatch of 13th [15th] instant the remainder of Hill's corps, except portions of the Sixteenth and Twenty-second North Carolina Regiments, the Stonewall Brigade, Young's cavalry brigade of Hampton's division, the Twenty-fifth Virginia Regiment, Carter's Virginia battery, Troup (Georgia) Battery, First Richmond Howitzers, and Third North Carolina Regiment re-enlisted for the war.

R. E. LEE.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, February* 20, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: I received this morning your telegram of yesterday directing me to permit the pork belonging to Mr. Robert Harvey, agent of the Navy Department, and stopped by my order, to pass. I immediately ordered that the pork be allowed to pass. It is here now, and cannot be forwarded because the railroad cannot give transportation. I do not think you would have sent your telegram of yesterday if you had known the facts. There are many persons in this department—I think the majority of them—who, through patriotism and an earnest desire to contribute all in their power to the Government, sell all of their supplies to the chief purchasing commissary at Government rates. There are a few who exert themselves to the utmost to get the highest possible prices, regardless of the Government. The man from whom Harvey procured this pork is one of the latter class, and he is one of the most unmitigated extortioners in the country. His surplus pork was engaged by the chief purchasing commissary for the army at Government prices. Then an agent of Scott & Co., salt manufacturers, came and offered him a higher price, and he sold it to them. Then this man Harvey came here as purchasing agent for the Navy Department, but showed me no such authority, and he offered a higher price for the pork and bought of this man 2,000 pounds, which had already been engaged for the army by Cloyd. This man (the owner of the pork) sent not only the 2,000 pounds, but, eager to sell all that he could spare at the highest price, sent 1,500 pounds more than Harvey had engaged. When these facts were reported to me I stopped the shipment of the whole.

If your telegram of yesterday is not rescinded the meat will be forwarded and the iniquitous extortioner will profit by the transaction which I have disclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, February 20, 1864; headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | |
| Staff | 15 | ..... | 15 | 20 |
| Early's division *a* | 309 | 3,809 | 4,830 | 9,336 |
| Johnson's division | 409 | 4,239 | 5,427 | 10,364 |
| Rodes' division *b* | 479 | 5,799 | 7,588 | 13,431 |
| Total | 1,212 | 13,847 | 17,860 | 33,151 |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | |
| Staff | 15 | ..... | 15 | 18 |
| Anderson's division | 461 | 5,652 | 6,987 | 12,194 |
| Heth's division *c* | 284 | 4,455 | 5,305 | 8,248 |
| Wilcox's division *d* | 363 | 4,982 | 6,117 | 9,167 |
| Total | 1,123 | 15,089 | 18,424 | 29,627 |
| Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: | | | | |
| Staff | 13 | ..... | 13 | 15 |
| Hampton's division | 245 | 3,302 | 4,135 | 7,666 |
| Lee's division *e* | 73 | 992 | 1,115 | 5,658 |
| Total | 331 | 4,294 | 5,263 | 13,339 |
| Artillery, Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 17 | 339 | 394 | 580 |
| Second Army Corps | 80 | 1,368 | 1,699 | 2,599 |
| Third Army Corps | 101 | 2,010 | 2,402 | 3,360 |
| Cavalry Corps | 16 | 346 | 398 | 598 |
| Total | 214 | 4,063 | 4,893 | 7,137 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | |
| Valley District *f* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Maryland Line | 52 | 715 | 872 | 1,306 |
| Provost guard | 20 | 236 | 331 | 539 |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 11 | 188 | 228 | 381 |
| Total | 83 | 1,139 | 1,431 | 2,226 |
| Grand total | 2,963 | 38,432 | 47,871 | 85,480 |

*a* Hoke's brigade not reported.
*b* Twenty-first Georgia and Forty-third North Carolina detached; not reported.
*c* Walker's and Archer's brigades detached.
*d* Thomas' brigade detached.
*e* Lee's brigade not reported; Lomax's brigade all absent; total present, Lee's division, consists of Second and parts of First and Fourth Virginia Cavalry; remainder absent, recruiting.
*f* Not reported.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 43. } *Richmond, February* 20, 1864.

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XXXI. Four companies (A, B, C, and D) of the Twentieth Georgia Battalion of Cavalry will proceed, under the command of the lieutenant-colonel commanding the battalion, to the Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee. The remaining two companies (E and F) of this battalion will remain as at present, in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, under the command of the major.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*Field return of Northwest Virginia Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. J. D. Imboden.*

| Command. | For duty. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Sick. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Generals. | Lieutenant-generals. | Major-generals. | Brigadier-generals. | Assistant adjutant-generals. | Adjutant and inspector generals. | Quartermasters. | Commissaries. | Chief surgeons. | Ordnance officers. | Engineer officers. | Signal officers. | Aides-de-camp. | Officers. | Enlisted men. | Officers. | Enlisted men. |
| General staff | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .... | 1 | .... | .... | 2 | 8 | .... | .... | .... |
| 62d Virginia Regiment Mounted Infantry. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 13 | 150 | 2 | 11 |
| 18th Virginia Regiment Cavalry. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 23 | 350 | .... | 15 |
| 41st Battalion Virginia Cavalry. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 21 | 230 | .... | 34 |
| McClanahan's battery | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 | 92 | .... | .... |
| Total | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 68 | 822 | 2 | 60 |

| Command. | Extra duty. | | In arrest. | | Total. | | Aggregate. | Absent total. | | Aggregate present and absent. | Aggregate present last return. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Enlisted men. | Officers. | Enlisted men. | Officers. | Enlisted men. | | Officers. | Enlisted men. | | | |
| General staff | .... | .... | .... | .... | 8 | .... | ..... | .... | .... | 8 | ..... | Error of 8 in last return on account of failure to report general staff. |
| 62d Virginia Regiment Mounted Infantry. | 2 | 22 | .... | 3 | 17 | 186 | 203 | 23 | 329 | 555 | 535 | 20 recruits received since last return. |
| 18th Virginia Regiment Cavalry. | .... | 29 | 1 | .... | 24 | 394 | 418 | 20 | 309 | 747 | 748 | Error, 1 man absent in arrest not accounted for. |
| 41st Battalion Virginia Cavalry. | .... | 14 | .... | 8 | 21 | 286 | 307 | 15 | 308 | 630 | 617 | 13 recruits received since last return. |
| McClanahan's battery | .... | 9 | .... | .... | 3 | 101 | 104 | 2 | 32 | 138 | 150 | 1 discharged, 1 died, 10 dropped from rolls as deserters. |
| Total | 2 | 74 | 1 | 11 | 73 | 967 | 1,040* | 60 | 978 | 2,078 | 2,050 | General staff not reported in last return. |

[NOTE].—Of the "absent total," 319 are absent on detached service, 209 absent sick, 90 absent with leave, 71 prisoners of war, 20 absent in arrest; the remainder absent without leave, 8 deserters. O'Ferrall's battalion cavalry, consisting of four companies, not being complete in its organization, and being located in Page County on duty, is not included in this return. Captain Woodson's company, numbering about 80 men, on provost-guard duty, Harrisonburg, not reported.

Respectfully submitted.

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HAYS' CREEK, ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VA.,
*February* 20, 1864.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 22, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL, *Commanding Corps:*

GENERAL: The general commanding sets out for Richmond this morning, being called thither on business with His Excellency the

*Error in addition not explainable.

President. He will be absent several days. He directs me to say that General Chilton will remain here in the office, and is instructed to consult with you on all matters of importance connected with the army. Should it become necessary, General Lee desires you either to move up to Orange Court-House or to remove the office to your quarters, as you may think proper.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
*Major and Aide-de-Camp.*

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HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*February* 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: Although I know you are anxious to secure the promotion of our many meritorious artillery officers I regret, as I do, the obstacles that have hitherto hindered favorable action upon the recommendations in their behalf. I deem it my duty to submit for your consideration some additional facts recently brought to my notice.

First. Some of the best officers in this corps, finding how extremely difficult it is to rise in it at all in proportion to service and merit, are making arrangements for more promising positions in other arms; nor can this be wondered at or even objected to as unpatriotic. Men the most devoted must be expected to value rank alike, as an evidence that their services are appreciated, and as an important condition toward more extended service. No man of merit ever disregards the question of promotion, and much as officers may be willing to sacrifice in times like these, they cannot ignore so universal and powerful a sentiment as that associated with martial honor.

Second. Even those officers who have no idea of seeking other service, and whose simple sense of duty will keep them steadfast unto the end, in spite of disproportionate reward, are compelled to consider themselves and their commands regarded with less than justice, and after all that can be allowed for high principle we must conclude that it is not in human nature not to be more or less disturbed by such a reflection, nor can such disturbance be without its injurious effects upon the public service.

Third. In addition to these considerations, the fact is worthy of particular attention that a number of the battalions have with them only one field officer, so that in contingencies frequently occurring the senior captain, not always well qualified for the charge, has to command a battalion, serious as are the responsibilities belonging to the position. It is certainly important that this difficulty be corrected before the next active campaign.

You will I know appreciate the case, and again ask for such action on the part of the President and the Secretary as may be practicable toward remedying the evil indicated.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
*Brigadier-General, &c.*

SUBSISTENCE OFFICE,
*Harrisonburg, Va., February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding Valley District:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instructions of this date. I have to report as follows: On the 8th day of this month Major Ginter, commissary of subsistence, turned over to me, viz:

| | Pounds. |
|---|---|
| 7 boxes adamantine candles | 245 |
| 16 boxes soap | 360 |
| 1 box pepper | 24 |
| 22 barrels pickled pork | 4,400 |

The latter article I sent to General Lee's army on the same day I received it. The soap has been regularly issued to the troops, &c. The candles and pepper have not been disturbed. I will forward the candles in a few days to the chief commissary Army of Northern Virginia.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. H. JOHNSON,
*Major, &c., Commissary of Subsistence.*

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HEADQUARTERS NORTHWEST BRIGADE,
*Hays' Creek, Rockbridge County, Va., February 22, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding Valley District:*

GENERAL: Your letter of this date has been received. I will send a squadron down the valley to-morrow morning to relieve General Rosser's pickets below Woodstock, as directed. I will also move my camp day after to-morrow to my old camp ground, this side of Swoope's Depot. I would move to-morrow, but all my wagons have been sent out 15 miles from camp to-day in search of forage, and will not be in before to-morrow evening. Until Thomas' and Walker's brigades actually move from Rockingham, I presume there is no necessity for me to move the main body of my command to that county; and till that necessity exists it is of the utmost importance for me to remain as far south as possible, on account of forage. I shall be compelled after I go to Rockingham to haul most of my grain from this (Rockbridge) county; therefore every day that I can remain as far south as, say, Swoope's Depot I will save that much in transportation. I scarcely see how it will be possible for me to subsist my horses in Rockingham, when compelled to go there, with the limited transportation allowed by general orders. You are doubtless aware of the fact that Rockingham is nearly exhausted of forage and grain of all kinds, and that Shenandoah and the country below is so completely exhausted that it is with great difficulty and labor, and constant controversies with the people, that even a small picket force can be supplied. My own horses are as much in need of rest as those of any brigade in the army, and I had hoped that for three or four weeks I could rest and feed them here. As that cannot be, however, I will go down to Augusta day after to-morrow, and hope that by furnishing the mounted picket to relieve General Rosser, you will permit me to remain there until orders are received for the return of Generals Thomas and Walker to the Army of Northern

Virginia, when I will at once proceed to take my entire command to Rockingham and support it as best I can. If you will notify me the day before the infantry brigades move, I will move down so as to conceal their movements from the knowledge of the enemy. You are mistaken in supposing that the Staunton and Parkersburg road is open and unguarded. There is a guard at McDowell, stopping all persons on that road, under Lieutenant Carpenter, enrolling officer of Highland County, and I have a company besides in the northwestern part of Highland, co-operating with four companies in Pendleton, to clean out the "swamps," arrest deserters, conscripts, and all suspicious parties. These forces cover all the approaches in that direction more effectually than any picket could do where you propose it (east of the Shenandoah Mountain), as there are several routes by which such a picket could be flanked from the valley. When the companies I now have on duty west of the Shenandoah Mountain return next week, I will station a picket permanently on that road, or keep a small force constantly scouting the roads in Highland and Pendleton. I also have four companies on the South Fork and South Branch, scouting, foraging, and gathering up cattle for my own command, sent out from Rockingham before I moved from Mount Crawford. McNeill is also over there, I understand, so that I regard all western outlets from the valley very effectually closed up. If you desire me to move right on to Rockingham, you will find me after to-morrow 7 miles southwest of Staunton, where I was camped last week, near Jacob Baylor's.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Wilmington, February 23, 1864.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War, Richmond:*

SIR: I request that you will give me immediate authority to cause the pilots of this port to be enrolled, to put those who refuse to serve as pilots under the regulations of the Department into the ranks of the army, and to detail such as are willing to act for the Government under such regulations and with such wages as may be prescribed. This is a matter of much importance and requires prompt action. The new law does away with the exemptions of pilots as such. They ought to be put under heavy bonds to return to the Confederacy, and they should be entirely subject to military control. As a body they have been guilty of outrageous extortion.

I am putting up the lights at the mouth of the harbor, and am in hopes that the services of these men will not be so much needed hereafter, or at any rate may be more useful and successful than heretofore. An early answer is requested.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 25, 1864.

Telegraph the pilots may be enrolled and detailed on conditions, which should, however, give reasonable assurance of speedy return to the Confederacy.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 23. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February* 24, 1864.

General Braxton Bragg is assigned to duty at the seat of government, and, under the direction of the President, is charged with the conduct of the military operations in the armies of the Confederacy.

By order :

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., February* 24, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XIII. Maj. Gen. G. E. Pickett will immediately dispatch to Lexington, N. C., a sufficient force to repress the mob and to protect the public property at that place.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War :

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE, C. S. ARMY,
*Richmond, Va., February* 24, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR : I beg leave to state that the letter of the general commanding the Army of Northern Virginia, respecting the discontinuance of certain hospitals, has received due attention. Owing to the excellent health of the soldiers of the Army of Northern Virginia, many of the hospitals have been closed, and others temporarily, especially those in the city of Richmond. (See letter to Medical Director Carrington on this subject, which is inclosed.) The general is under the impression that the detailed nurses (soldiers) are able-bodied men. This is a great mistake ; they are all disabled by reason of disability, and have been detailed for hospital duty on this account. To show that proper measures have been taken by this bureau to return even these soldiers to their commands, I refer to inclosed circular from this office, dated August 11, 1863. In accordance with this circular, 376 detailed hospital attendants have been returned to their commands. The law requiring examining boards to furlough soldiers who will not be fit for duty in thirty days is another cause for the small number of patients ; as this law has been modified, it will insure a larger number of patients than are at present in hospitals. If medical officers are required in the Army of Northern Virginia, it is the duty of the medical director to notify me of his wants ; they have heretofore received prompt attention. The general must be aware there are other armies that require hospital accommodations. The medical director of General Longstreet's army, for instance, has asked me for 10,000 beds. Where are they to be had if the larger hospitals enumerated by General Lee are closed ? It appears to be the impression that hospitals can be put

in operation in a day; such is not the case. If there were a hospital corps, surgeons, matrons, attendants, &c., in reserve the task would not be so difficult as it is at present, as the only attendants given to hospitals are disabled and incompetent soldiers, and to these the line officers invariably object as well as to negroes. If there should be a deficiency of hospital accommodation for the sick and wounded of our armies on whom will the odium fall? Not, surely, on General Lee, but on the chief of the medical department. The want of hospitals was terribly felt in 1861, and I dare not assume the responsibility of having such scenes acted over again. Whenever it is to the interest of the service to close hospitals it has been done. At present it is not deemed advisable to discontinue any more.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. MOORE,
*Surgeon-General, C. S. Army.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

CIRCULAR, No. 134. SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE, C. S. ARMY, *Richmond, Va., August* 11, 1863.

The attention of the examining boards established by virtue of General Orders, No. 69, Confederate States Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, for the purpose of granting furloughs and recommending discharges to sick and wounded soldiers in hospital, will be specially called to paragraphs I and II of General Orders, No. 96, of July 8, 1863, from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, and they are hereafter required to examine, at least once in each month, all enlisted men (exclusive of hospital stewards appointed by the Secretary of War) who have been detailed for any duty in hospital, and all white males subject to conscription who may be therein employed, and will return for duty to their commands, or will report to the enrolling officer for conscription, all such as are not positively disqualified for field service. A special report of all such thus found capable of bearing arms will be made monthly to this office.

S. P. MOORE,
*Surgeon-General, C. S. Army.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE, C. S. ARMY,
*Richmond, Va., January* 25, 1864.

Surg. WILLIAM A. CARRINGTON,
*Medical Director, Richmond:*

SIR: Owing to the exigencies of the service, the following-named hospitals in Richmond will be temporarily closed and the patients transferred to the hospitals herein designated: General Hospital No. 1 and Winder Hospital, patients to be transferred to Jackson Hospital; Howard's Grove Hospital, patients to be transferred to Chimborazo. The property pertaining to these hospitals (No. 1, Winder, and Howard's Grove) will be carefully examined, and such repairs made as are necessary, and packed away for future use at the respective hospitals, placed in charge of a guard under the direction of the surgeons in charge of those hospitals. You are instructed to communicate with Colonel Stevens and ascertain if he can employ the negroes now in the hospitals about to be temporarily closed on

the fortifications or on some light duty, with the understanding that they be returned to these hospitals when their services are again required. The matrons will be retained. The medical officers attached to these hospitals will be assigned to other duty. As regards Winder Hospital, it is deemed advisable to pull down every alternate building, in order to give free ventilation and to secure them from entire destruction by fire. The buildings thus torn down can be re-erected in the fine grove adjoining the division of Surgeon Dudley.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. MOORE,
*Surgeon-General, C. S. Army.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, February* 25, 1864.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:

SIR: I beg to call your attention to the importance of a suspension or partial suspension of the writ of habeas corpus in this command. Many writs are being sued out under the authority of Judge Pearson, of the supreme court of this State, a man whom I believe to be a traitor, if not open at least at heart. If you would suspend the writ simply so far as relates to soldiers and parties liable to military service, I think the ends proposed in the recent action of Congress would be attained for the present.

I beg leave to inclose herewith an extract from this morning's Confederate.* .

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

SECRETARY OF WAR:

It seems proper that a general order should be issued for the guidance of officers in the military service.

J. D.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 46. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February* 25, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXVIII. Major-General Breckinridge is hereby assigned to the command of the Trans-Alleghany or Western Department of Virginia.

Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones is relieved from duty in that department and will be held subject to future assignment.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWEST BRIGADE,
*Near Bridgewater, February 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
*Commanding Valley District:*

Your note containing dispatch from Major Gilmor has been received. I will send a courier to McNeill at once, as directed. I have two companies several miles below McNeill's camp, on the South Fork, in the upper end of Hardy, who have been there over two weeks, guarding all the roads in that quarter, and especially watching the Brock's Gap and Dry River gaps, on the west side of Shenandoah. They frequently scout to Moorefield and Petersburg. A courier arrived night before last from their camp with dispatches, reporting all quiet in Hardy. I also have Captain Stump and over 50 men scouting in the upper end of Hampshire, on Big Cacapon, North River, and Lost River. These scouts will report any such movement as Major Gilmor mentions in ample time to provide against it.

I don't believe Averell has gone to Petersburg. The enemy has two regiments of infantry at work fortifying at Burlington, which I believe hereafter will be their most advanced position. I will send you promptly any information indicating a move this way by Averell. My information from Burlington, Petersburg, &c., is up to last Friday evening. The enemy has only had two small scouts as far as Moorefield since you left there. Lieutenant-Colonel Lang had a skirmish with and dispersed about 70 "swamps" on Seneca last week, with part of the Sixty-second Regiment, sent out from Mount Crawford.

Yours, respectfully,

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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PETERSBURG,
*February 26, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Following telegram just received from Lieut. Col. A. Herbert, at Lexington, N. C.:

Has been no mob at this place, nor is there any likelihood of there being any, from what I can see and learn. On the 5th some women robbed Government depot, some 20 miles from here, and on the 18th a similar robbery was committed by women at Government mills, near the point of the first robbery. These women are supposed to have been encouraged by deserters and disloyal men. What shall I do?

A squadron of cavalry would answer as well or better than 1,000 infantry.

A. HERBERT,
*Lieutenant-Colonel Seventeenth Virginia Infantry.*

Colonel Herbert has been ordered to return, leaving two companies at that point.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

RICHMOND, [*February* 27, 1864.]

Brigadier-General RANSOM,
*Weldon, N. C.:*

It is reported that the military guard at Gaston are robbing the stores. Please have them removed.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, February* 28, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Richmond:*

GENERAL: I beg leave to call your attention to the necessity of providing for this post a sufficient garrison to insure it against surprise. This necessity always exists, and that it may be fully considered permit me to lay before you two or three letters* on the subject addressed to the Adjutant and Inspector General of the Army. Memoirs, maps, and correspondence with the War Department will serve for a full understanding of this position, its importance, the means of defense and their application.

Upon these letters Kemper's brigade was assigned to me, but the New Berne expedition was ordered, of which that formed part. Since then I am not aware that it is at my disposal. My great need is to have such an addition to the permanent garrison as to enable me to prevent the works at the mouth of the river from being turned or surprised. I cannot do this as things now are.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 29, 1864.

General ELZEY:

General Long, at Frederick's Hall, reports that enemy, after cutting railroad below that point, moved to Louisa Court-House and Richmond road, and turned off in direction of the latter place. He also reported that Kilpatrick has gone through Spotsylvania. Please notify Colonel Johnson, at Hanover Junction.

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *February* 29, 1864.
(Received 4.40 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

As at present advised, enemy's cavalry appears to be moving by our left and right, one column in the direction of Charlottesville, the other Frederick's Hall.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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*Not found as inclosures.

*Abstract from return of the Department of North Carolina, Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett, C. S. Army, commanding, for the month of February, 1864; headquarters Petersburg, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| Field and staff | 9 | ..... | ..... | 9 | 9 | ..... |
| Ransom's brigade | 157 | 2,864 | 2,864 | 3,205 | 4,330 | ..... |
| Corse's brigade | 110 | 1,578 | 1,578 | 1,905 | 2,909 | ..... |
| Clingman's brigade | 144 | 1,956 | 1,956 | 2,515 | 3,142 | ..... |
| Hoke's brigade | 103 | 1,562 | 1,562 | 1,945 | 3,370 | ..... |
| 67th North Carolina Regiment (Colonel Whitford) | 34 | 590 | 590 | 697 | 933 | ..... |
| Kinston provost guard | 9 | 129 | 129 | 154 | 242 | ..... |
| 10th Georgia Battalion | 21 | 305 | 305 | 364 | 444 | ..... |
| C. S. Zouaves | 18 | 41 | 41 | 61 | 91 | ..... |
| 44th Virginia Battalion | 8 | 128 | 128 | 167 | 244 | ..... |
| Total infantry | 604 | 9,153 | 9,153 | 11,013 | 15,705 | ..... |
| 3d North Carolina Cavalry (41st Regiment) | 10 | 274 | 274 | 319 | 974 | ..... |
| 6th North Carolina Cavalry (65th Regiment) | 26 | 247 | 247 | 322 | 536 | ..... |
| 62d Georgia Cavalry | 39 | 559 | 559 | 679 | 814 | 1 |
| 7th Confederate Cavalry | 1 | 65 | 65 | 70 | 97 | ..... |
| Dearing's regiment (Confederate cavalry) | 17 | 244 | 244 | 307 | 424 | 4 |
| Total cavalry | 93 | 1,389 | 1,389 | 1,697 | 2,845 | 5 |
| Colonel Pool's command (Goldsborough) | 13 | 123 | 123 | 148 | 266 | ..... |
| Robertson's (North Carolina) heavy battery | 3 | 69 | 69 | 80 | 103 | 2 |
| Read's battalion (38th Virginia) | 13 | 343 | 343 | 386 | 543 | ..... |
| Starr's (North Carolina) battalion light artillery | 11 | 307 | 307 | 352 | 394 | 11 |
| Moseley's (Virginia) battalion light artillery | 2 | 114 | 114 | 130 | 151 | 4 |
| Washington (Louisiana) Artillery Battalion | 15 | 274 | 274 | 316 | 462 | 12 |
| Coit's artillery battalion | 14 | 268 | 268 | 311 | 408 | 14 |
| 10th North Carolina Troops (1st North Carolina Artillery) | 13 | 189 | 189 | 268 | 396 | 19 |
| Andrews' (Alabama) battery | 1 | 56 | 56 | 63 | 78 | 4 |
| Slaten's (Georgia) battery | 3 | 97 | 97 | 108 | 137 | 4 |
| Lieut. Col. J. R. Branch's command, near Petersburg: | | | | | | |
| Field and staff | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 7 | ..... |
| Sturdivant's (Virginia) battery | 5 | 82 | 82 | 100 | 109 | 4 |
| Martin's (Virginia) battery | 2 | 46 | 46 | 55 | 72 | 4 |
| Total artillery | 98 | 1,971 | 1,971 | 2,324 | 3,126 | 78 |
| Independent Signal Corps | 9 | 190 | 190 | 210 | 244 | ..... |
| Grand total | 813 | 12,703 | 12,703 | 15,253 | 21,929 | 83 |

*Organization of troops in the Department of North Carolina, commanded by Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett, C. S. Army, for the month of February, 1864.**

*Ransom's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. MATT. W. RANSOM.

24th North Carolina, Col. William J. Clarke.
25th North Carolina, Col. Henry M. Rutledge.
35th North Carolina, Col. John G. Jones.
49th North Carolina, Col. Lee M. McAfee.
56th North Carolina, Col. Paul F. Faison.

*Corse's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. MONTGOMERY D. CORSE.

15th Virginia, Col. Thomas P. August.
17th Virginia, Col. Morton Marye.
18th Virginia, Col. Robert E. Withers.
29th Virginia, Col. James Giles.
30th Virginia, Col. A. T. Harrison.

* Organization of artillery not given on return.

*Not brigaded.*

C. S. Zouaves, Lieut. Col. Alfred Coppens.
10th Georgia Battalion, Maj. John E. Rylander.
67th North Carolina, Col. John N. Whitford.
44th Virginia Battalion, Maj. Peter V. Batte.

*Hoke's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

21st Georgia, Col. John T. Mercer.
6th North Carolina, Col. Robert F. Webb.
21st North Carolina, Col. William S. Rankin.
43d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Kenan.
54th North Carolina, Col. Kenneth M. Murchison.
57th North Carolina, Col. Archibald C. Godwin.

*Clingman's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS L. CLINGMAN.

8th North Carolina, Col. James M. Whitson.
31st North Carolina, Col. John V. Jordan.
51st North Carolina, Col. Hector McKethan.
61st North Carolina, Col. James D. Radcliffe.

*Cavalry.*

7th Confederate Cavalry, Col. V. H. Taliaferro.
62d Georgia Cavalry, Col. Joel R. Griffin.
3d North Carolina Cavalry (41st Regiment), Col. John A. Baker.
6th North Carolina Cavalry (65th Regiment), Col. George N. Folk.
Dearing's Confederate Cavalry Regiment, Col. James Dearing.

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*Abstract from return of the Department of the Cape Fear, Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding, for February 29, 1864; headquarters Wilmington, N. C.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| General staff | 11 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 14 |
| Post of Wilmington | 10 | ..... | ..... | 10 | 10 |
| Martin's brigade | 143 | 2,572 | 2,700 | 3,073 | 3,909 |
| Engineer troops | 2 | 50 | 78 | 89 | 102 |
| Signal corps | 2 | 38 | 38 | 40 | 53 |
| Heavy artillery | 112 | 2,114 | 2,596 | 3,070 | 3,854 |
| Cavalry | 32 | 476 | 508 | 563 | 767 |
| Light artillery | 36 | 738 | 768 | 840 | 926 |
| Total | 348 | 5,990 | 6,690 | 7,698 | 9,635 |

*Organization of troops in the Department of the Cape Fear, commanded by Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, February 29, 1864.*

*Martin's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JAMES G. MARTIN.

17th North Carolina, Col. William F. Martin.
42d North Carolina.
50th North Carolina, Col. George Wortham.
66th North Carolina, Col. Alexander D. Moore.

*Heavy Artillery.*

Brig. Gen. LOUIS HÉBERT.

Fort Caswell, Col. T. M. Jones.
Fort Fisher, Col. William Lamb.
Forts Pender and Holmes, Col. John J. Hedrick.
Wilmington, Col. George A. Cunningham.

*Cavalry.*

7th Confederate Cavalry (two companies),
3d North Carolina Cavalry (one company),
5th North Carolina Cavalry (one company),
5th South Carolina Cavalry (two companies),
} Col. George Jackson.

*Light Artillery.*

3d North Carolina Battalion, Company A, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis.
3d North Carolina Battalion, Company B, Capt. William Badham, jr.
13th North Carolina Battalion, Battery D, Capt. Zachariah T. Adams.
Staunton Hill (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.
Southerland's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Thomas J. Southerland.
Webb's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Lewis H. Webb.
Young's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Edward R. Young.

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*Abstract from return of the Department of Western Virginia, Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding, for the month of February,* 1864; *headquarters Dublin Depot, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| General staff | 16 | ..... | ..... | 16 | 17 | ..... |
| Echols' brigade | 83 | 1,143 | 1,143 | 1,358 | 2,277 | ..... |
| McCausland's brigade | 94 | 1,268 | 1,268 | 1,458 | 2,194 | ..... |
| 45th Virginia Regiment *a* | 37 | 526 | 526 | 612 | 930 | ..... |
| Hart's company engineer troops | 2 | 48 | 48 | 54 | 68 | ..... |
| Total infantry | 216 | 2,985 | 2,985 | 3,482 | 5,469 | .... |
| W. L. Jackson's cavalry brigade | 78 | 660 | 660 | 819 | 1,619 | ..... |
| 14th Virginia Cavalry *b* | 34 | 406 | 406 | 499 | 790 | ..... |
| 17th Virginia Cavalry *c* | 31 | 280 | 280 | 359 | 583 | ..... |
| 16th Virginia Cavalry *d* | 20 | 143 | 143 | 173 | 754 | ..... |
| 22d Virginia Cavalry | 25 | 221 | 221 | 268 | 97 | ..... |
| 37th Virginia Battalion (Company H), couriers | 3 | 59 | 59 | 64 | 108 | ..... |
| Total cavalry | 191 | 1,769 | 1,769 | 2,182 | 4,651 | ..... |
| Chapman's (Virginia) battery | 3 | 104 | 104 | 119 | 156 | 6 |
| Bryan's (Virginia) battery | 2 | 46 | 46 | 50 | 152 | ..... |
| Burroughs' (Tennessee) battery | 3 | 38 | 38 | 42 | 84 | ..... |
| McClung's (Tennessee) battery | 3 | 42 | 42 | 47 | 54 | ..... |
| Lurty's (Virginia) battery | 4 | 62 | 62 | 66 | 95 | ..... |
| Botetourt (Virginia) Artillery | 4 | 88 | 88 | 96 | 147 | 6 |
| Jackson's (Virginia) Horse Artillery | 3 | 41 | 41 | 47 | 60 | 2 |
| Total artillery | 22 | 421 | 421 | 467 | 748 | 14 |
| Grand total | 445 | 5,175 | 5,175 | 6,147 | 10,885 | 14 |

*a* At Saltville.
*b* With Echols' brigade.
*c* With McCausland's brigade.
*d* Not heretofore reported.

Major-General Breckinridge is now absent in Monroe County and will not return for several days. As this report has already been delayed, and as General B. was not in command during the period it covers, I have thought it best, in the absence of the commanding general, to forward it at once.

C. S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*Organization of troops in the Department of Western Virginia, commanded by Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, February 29, 1864.*

*Echols' Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JOHN ECHOLS.

22d Virginia, Lieut. Col. Andrew R. Barbee.
23d Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Clarence Derrick.
26th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. George M. Edgar.
Virginia Partisan Company, Capt. Philip J. Thurmond.
Virginia Partisan Company, Capt. William D. Thurmond.

*McCausland's Brigade.*

Col. JOHN MCCAUSLAND.

36th Virginia.
45th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Beckley.
60th Virginia, Col. Beuhring H. Jones.
Hart's Company Engineer Troops.

*Troops at Saltville.*

45th Virginia, Col. William H. Browne.

*Jenkins' Brigade.**

14th Virginia Cavalry, Col. James Cochran.
16th Virginia Cavalry, Lieut. Col. William L. Graham.
17th Virginia Cavalry.

*Jackson's Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM L. JACKSON.

19th Virginia Cavalry.
20th Virginia Cavalry.
46th Virginia Battalion.

*Couriers.*

37th Virginia Battalion, Company H, Capt. William H. Payne.

*Artillery.*

Botetourt (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Henry C. Douthat.
Bryan's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Thomas A. Bryan.
Rhett (Tennessee) Battery, Capt. William H. Burroughs.
Chapman's (Virginia) battery, Capt. George B. Chapman.
Jackson's (Virginia) Horse Artillery, Capt. Thomas E. Jackson.
Lurty's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Warren S. Lurty.
McClung's (Tennessee) battery, Capt. Hugh L. W. McClung.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., March* 1, 1864.

COMMANDER AT PETERSBURG, VA.:

The enemy are said to have crossed a small raiding force across the James, about 17 miles west of this city, with the view of striking the railroads on the south side. I consider this doubtful. Skirmishing on the east side of the city.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

---

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *March* 2, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

All quiet in front. Keep me advised of movements of Kilpatrick.

R. E. LEE.

---

* Not at present united.

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *March* 2, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Just returned from Madison Court-House. Enemy (infantry and cavalry) recrossed Robertson River into Culpeper last night without injury.

R. E. LEE.

---

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., March* 2, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Orange Court-House, Va.:*

General Hampton, with some 400 cavalry, attacked the larger portion of the enemy's cavalry, supposed to be a brigade, last night about 7 miles from Richmond. The enemy were defeated, with the loss of some 75 prisoners and many horses, and fled toward Hanover Court-House. General Hampton, from the jaded condition of his horses and want of forage, was unable to follow.

Another body of cavalry, believed to be about five regiments, after being repulsed on the Westham road, retreated toward Hungary Station, and thence by the mountain road, apparently returning by the route they came.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

---

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*March* 2, 1864.

General E. JOHNSON:

GENERAL: I wish you to move with so much of your division as is not on picket toward the Wilderness. You can either take the turnpike or plank road. If the former, continue as far as its intersection with Wilderness Run; if the latter, to Wilderness Church, unless you hear of Kilpatrick returning to the Rapidan west of those points. The object is to endeavor to intercept him. Go as far as you conveniently can to-night. General Stuart, with Wickham's and Rosser's brigades, has gone down the plank road, and will be to-night at Parker's Store or Wilderness Church. He has directions to communicate with you, inform you of movements of enemy, &c., and I wish you to conform to the information you receive or can obtain. Make arrangements for provision and forage, and you may take with you one or two batteries of Nelson's battalion. I will direct him to be ready, and will notify General Ewell. The pickets on the Rapidan have been instructed to keep you advised of any movement of enemy in that quarter, and General Ewell will be directed to support you if necessary. I have directed a company of couriers to report to you.

Let me know what road you take and where you will be to-night.

Very respectfully, &c.,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 2, 1864.

General W. H. C. WHITING,
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

General Pickett has been ordered to send Kemper's brigade to report to you. On its arrival order the Tenth North Carolina Battalion to report to General Lee's army, Northern Virginia.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

---

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 3, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE,
*Orange Court-House, Va.:*

Kilpatrick's and Butler's forces have united on the Chickahominy for attack on Richmond. If you can spare any [force] send it. The force at Hanover Junction has been drawn to this point.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

---

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *March* 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. ELZEY:

Your telegram of 12.15 received. On call from General Cooper I have ordered troops to Richmond; are they needed? If not, inform me promptly. Are there any indications of an attack by Butler, or did he apparently simply move to Kilpatrick's relief?

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

---

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 3, 1864.

General G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

Send without delay to this city the nearest brigade of your command. Suspend execution of dispatch of yesterday respecting Kemper's brigade. We are in need of re-enforcements here at the earliest moment. We want two brigades, if possible, immediately.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

---

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *March* 3, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Stuart with cavalry and Heth's division of infantry ordered to Richmond. Halt them if not needed.

R. E. LEE.

---

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 3, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE,
*Orange Court-House:*

Have just received your dispatch of to-day. The emergency has ceased. Stuart's cavalry and Heth's division not now needed.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 61. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Orange Court-House, March 3*, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VI. Brig. Gen. N. H. Harris, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill, commanding Third Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, for assignment to the command of the brigade of Anderson's division formerly commanded by Brigadier-General Posey.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

PETERSBURG, VA., *March* 3, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

I have ordered the cavalry companies which were to assemble at High Bridge to go to Richmond at once. Will you let me know immediately whether the danger in that neighborhood has passed? I want the City Battalion returned. There are no troops here. Two regiments of Clingman's (number 1,400 muskets—more than Kemper's whole brigade) are now leaving here; that leaves this place entirely unguarded. Answer.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

---

PETERSBURG, *March* 3, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Your dispatch received. I have only twenty field pieces here, and horses enough to move seven pieces and men enough to fight the twenty. Shall I send them all?

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

---

RICHMOND, *March* 3, 1864.

General PICKETT:

Send only the pieces for which you have horses, particularly the Napoleons and rifles. S. C.

---

PETERSBURG, *March* 3, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Have answered all your telegrams, but up to this hour, 3 p. m., have not been notified of the receipt of any of them nor any reply to my question as to whether the danger at High Bridge has passed. Answer.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

PETERSBURG, *March* 3, 1864.

General A. ELZEY:

I have some twenty pieces of light artillery, only one of them rifled, all the rest Napoleons, but I have horses for only six of them.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

PETERSBURG, *March* 3, 1864.

Major-General ELZEY:

Six pieces of artillery, in command of Captain Miller, Washington Artillery, left here this evening. He will report to you by 12 o'clock to-night.

By command of Major-General Pickett:

C. H. RHODES,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

GORDONSVILLE, *March* 3, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General COOPER:

I am directed by General Lee to halt my command at this point, unless otherwise ordered from Richmond.

H. HETH,
*Major-General.*

---

RICHMOND, *March* 4, 1864.

Major-General HETH:

General Lee was yesterday telegraphed that your division was not now required here, the emergency having passed.

S. COOPER.

---

HANOVER JUNCTION, *March* 4, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

I arrived here this morning with Rosser's cavalry brigade, after a night march from the vicinity of Chancellorsville. Have you any information of the enemy upon which I can act?

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

---

FREDERICKSBURG, *March* 4, 1864—5 p. m.

General S. COOPER:

The enemy's cavalry has crossed Ely's Ford and is advancing toward Chancellorsville.

P. M. B. YOUNG,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

HAMILTON'S CROSSING, *March* 4, 1864—9 p. m.

General S. COOPER:

Enemy gone back over the river.

P. M. B. YOUNG,
*Brigadier-General.*

RICHMOND, *March* 4, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

GENERAL: From the report of Major-General Elzey this morning I deem the further presence of troops drawn from other points unnecessary, and suggest that they be returned to their respective positions and that the previous order for a brigade to General Whiting be now renewed.

Very respectfully, &c.,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
*General.*

---

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. ELZEY,
*Richmond, Va.:*

I am directed by the Adjutant-General to inform you that the presence of troops drawn from other points for the defense of this city is deemed now unnecessary. They will therefore be returned to their respective positions.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

H. L. CLAY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *March* 4, 1864.

Major-General ELZEY:

Use the troops about Richmond to repair the railroads as speedily as possible.

R. E. LEE.

---

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., March* 4, 1864.

General G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

No force on the south side. Enemy believed to have retreated to Williamsburg.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

---

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

Your two last dispatches of yesterday did not reach me until too late last night to answer. I had previously directed General Elzey to telegraph you that we needed no more troops from your command. You must have received my dispatch respecting the troops at High Bridge.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
*Petersburg, Va.:*

Orders have been given for your two regiments to be returned to you. You will therefore carry out orders lately given to you and send the brigade to Major-General Whiting.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

---

PETERSBURG, *March* 4, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Your dispatch received. I have ordered Kemper's brigade to report to General Whiting.

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

---

DUBLIN, *March* 4, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

General Breckinridge arrived this evening. I start for Richmond to-morrow.

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

---

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *March* 5, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Am aware of enemy's crossing at Ely's Ford; troops are there to meet them.

R. E. LEE.

---

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
No. 13. } *Dublin, March* 5, 1864.

In obedience to the orders of the President the undersigned hereby relinquishes command of the Trans-Alleghany or Western Department of Virginia.

On parting with the troops he has so long commanded he desires to thank them for the courtesy that has marked their intercourse with him and his high appreciation of their gallantry and good conduct. If all has not been accomplished during his administration of this department that may have been desired or expected, no blame attaches to them. He has always found them prompt to obey his orders and ready to meet or seek the enemy. They have at least the satisfaction of knowing that whilst they have contributed largely to re-enforce and aid other armies of the Confederacy, many of them fighting at Gettysburg, Chickamauga, and Vicksburg, and were in no small degree instrumental in checking the advance of the enemy through East Tennessee into Virginia, no reverse of any consequence has been suffered in this department, which it was the special duty of the Army of Western Virginia to defend. The citi-

zens have been almost wholly shielded from the ravages and devastations that the enemy has committed in other sections of the country, and that our troops now hold all the territory they held when the undersigned entered on command, more than fifteen months since.

He earnestly hopes that under the guidance of the distinguished officer and statesman who this day enters on command in this department, and with the favor of the only Giver of Victory, they will perform their full share, and more, in bringing the unjust and savage war for our subjugation, now waged against us, to a successful termination, and in establishing the independence of the Southern Confederacy.

SAM. JONES,
*Major-General.*

---

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, March 5*, 1864.

I. By direction of the President of the Confederate States the undersigned assumes command of this department.

In relieving his accomplished predecessor he hopes by the efforts of brave troops and a patriotic people to protect this important and beautiful portion of Virginia.

II. First. Lieut. J. Cabell Breckinridge is announced as aide-de-camp in addition to the present staff, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*March 6*, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I think it probable, from the information received from Colonel Jackson, at Warm Springs, that active operations in your department will commence on this end of your line. I was glad to know from your dispatch that you would be here during this week. I shall be glad to see you as early as you can properly come over, in order to have the benefit of your counsel and direction. It will also be a good time for you to become acquainted with the topography of the country. I have pretty minute and accurate maps of several of the counties in this immediate section, which will be of service to you. If you will let me know the day when you expect to reach the county of Monroe I should be glad to ride over and meet you. Mr. Caperton, I believe, expects you to be his guest when you come on, and his house is only 15 miles from my headquarters. I should think, if the enemy intend an advance now in this direction, that they would be here in the course of four or five days.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

NARROWS, *March* 6, 1864.

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW:

I see by the dispatch of General Breckinridge that General Echols is directed to call upon me for aid in the raid he reports. My artillery and wagon horses have all been sent to the rear, into Bland and Pulaski Counties, and if I am expected to move they must be sent for at once and I must have corn sent to this place or I cannot move. Let me know what I am to do. I moved to Union in the last raid, and it would have been much better if I had not gone. I suggest the propriety of my orders coming from department headquarters.

JOHN McCAUSLAND,
*Colonel, Commanding, &c.*

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[MARCH 8, 1864.—For Lee to Longstreet, relative to combined movement of Johnston's and Longstreet's forces into Middle Tennessee, &c., see Vol. XXXII, Part III, p. 594.]

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*March* 9, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: I beg leave to call your attention to the importance of a speedy organization of the minutemen in the counties bordering on the Alleghany Ridge, for the protection of the agricultural and mining interests of that valuable region. General Imboden has sent me a plan of apportionment of these counties for the formation of regiments, which I approve. He thinks that five regiments may be obtained by the following apportionment: One regiment from Page, Shenandoah, Hardy, and such portions of the counties lower down as we can control, with its rendezvous at Woodstock; a second regiment from Rockingham, Pendleton, and Highland, with its rendezvous at Harrisonburg; the third from Augusta and Bath, with headquarters at Staunton; the fourth from Rockbridge and Alleghany, rendezvous at Lexington or some more convenient point; the fifth from Botetourt, Roanoke, and Craig, with headquarters at Salem, Buchanan, or Fincastle, or such point as may be selected. These regiments, organized under good commanders, with proper rendezvous to be assigned for the different battalions in case of alarm, with a good system of signaling, ought to be able to protect the valley and punish severely raiding parties of the enemy. I would suggest that the Conscript Bureau send active and efficient officers into the counties aforesaid in order to perfect the organization of these regiments as speedily as practicable.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[First indorsement.]

MARCH 11, 1864.

CONSCRIPT BUREAU:

Efficient measures should be taken to effect the enrollment and speedy organization of the men in the district referred to by General Lee. I should, however, prefer the battalion organization.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary of War.*

[Second indorsement.]

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION,
*Richmond, March* 12, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Shields, who will take into immediate consideration what officers he will send to these districts.

By order of Colonel Preston, superintendent:

THOMAS PINCKNEY,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

APRIL 12, 1864.

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Give instructions to General Imboden to direct the enrollment and organization of the reserve force in the district named. Supernumerary and invalid officers should be first availed of; appointments where authorized by law can follow. Among the brigadier-generals of Virginia one no doubt can be found who may be properly assigned and relieve General Imboden hereafter, but the work should not wait for his arrival.

J. D.

[Fourth indorsement.]

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION,
*Richmond, April* 12, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War, whose attention is invited to the indorsement of His Excellency the President.

JOHN S. PRESTON,
*Colonel and Superintendent.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

APRIL 13, 1864.

Major MELTON:

Note particularly the President's indorsement, and give the requisite orders to carry them out.

J. A. S.

[Sixth indorsement.]

APRIL 13, 1864.

In addition to his present duties, Brigadier-General Imboden is charged with the enrollment and organization of the reserve forces of Virginia in the counties of Botetourt, Roanoke, Craig, Rockingham, Pendleton, Highland, Augusta, Bath, Rockbridge, Alleghany, Page, Shenandoah, Hardy, and such portions of country lower down the valley as can be controlled. The enrolling officers in the counties named, and such supernumerary and invalid officers as may be available, will proceed with their duties rapidly under the supervision of General Imboden, who will act in co-operation with the Bureau of Conscription and in strict accordance with the provisions of law and orders. The rolls will be forwarded without delay to this office for official action, and, mean time, arrangements will be per-

fected for the prompt assembling of the men in the event that the President shall deem it necessary to call these forces into service.

(Colonel Withers, for orders as above. Copies for Bureau of Conscription, General Lee, and General Imboden.

MELTON.)

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HEADQUARTERS, *March* 9, 1864.

Major-General STUART,
*Commanding:*

GENERAL: The condition of Butler's brigade is such that unless it can have time to recruit before the spring campaign it will then be totally unfit for service. I was in hopes from what you told me that this brigade would be relieved on the 1st of March, but it is still on duty, much broken down by its late marches. The almost total want of long forage is the main cause of its present condition. Very little forage was to be had in that country, and but one shipment of hay has been made to it by railroad. This seems the more strange as I have been informed that long forage has been regularly shipped to the cavalry, which is on the left. It is proposed to keep one brigade near Richmond to protect the city, and I suggest that you send Butler's. In a very few days, with rest and forage, it would be in fighting condition, and it would improve constantly whilst on light duty. The dismounted men of the command could do good service in the works, and if an enemy is to be pursued horses could readily be obtained in the city for temporary use. As soon as the condition of the brigade is good it can be brought to the field and another can take its place. By drawing all its pickets it could now mount 500 men, and quite a large number of recruits and fresh horses are coming on to it. The regiments of General Lee which were disbanded are coming in very full, and they could easily relieve this brigade.

I beg that you will take prompt action in this matter, and I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

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GOOCHLAND COURT-HOUSE, *March* 10, 1864.

JAMES A. SEDDON:

DEAR SIR: Pardon the liberty I take in presuming to intrude on your valuable time some suggestions to which, in the multiplicity of business in which you are engaged, you possibly may not have turned your attention, relating to the late Yankee raid in this county. It seems to me the felonies committed by them in this county, in burning houses on the various farms, stealing plate from Captain Morrow's dwelling, burning Dover Mills and other mills, stealing negroes, and then hanging a negro they had stolen, are all offenses cognizable by the judicial tribunals of the State of Virginia, for which they ought to be tried in this county. Witnesses can easily be procured to establish the arson, robbery, and murder on the officers and men captured in King and Queen, as accessories

before the fact. Previous to committing the felonies they had taken as prisoners several officers at Frederick's Hall, and afterward Thomas A. Card, in this county, who were kept in custody by the Yankees, carried with them wherever they went, witnessed the burning, stealing negroes, &c., and hanging the negro, made their escape when the Yankees were defeated in King and Queen, and then acted as guards in conveying the Yankee prisoners to Richmond, along with the negroes they had stolen in this county.

If complaint was made to me as a justice of this county by any of the injured persons or their agent, and being furnished with the names of the prisoners, I would not hesitate in issuing warrants for their apprehension, and I presume the Confederate authorities would yield the prisoners to undergo a trial before the court of this county.

I do not wish you to consider this as addressed to you in your official character as Secretary of War, but as a countryman and acquaintance, who has been injured by the burning, and an old friend.

BENJ. ANDERSON.

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 12, 1864.

Noted. Perhaps if punishment were duly administered it would not await the law's delay.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

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HEADQUARTERS VALLEY DISTRICT,
*March* 10, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I inclose copy of a dispatch* to General Rosser from one of his scouts, received last night, which coincides with reports sent to me by my own men. I have little or no doubt that we shall have a big raid here some time this month. I have sent 350 men to work on the line of fortifications in the mountain passes. I can't put up all those works in time to resist the next raid and at the same time keep an adequate force below Staunton. Would it not be well to notify General Breckinridge of these significant preparations of the enemy, and call upon him to put up the works south of Millborough and require Colonel Jackson to do the work at Millborough? If Averell comes with 5,000 to 6,000 men and threatens two or three places at once, say Staunton, Lexington, and the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, we shall be sorely put to to meet him unless these works are finished and other troops sent to the district.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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*Not found.

*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, March 10, 1864; headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | |
| Staff | 16 | ..... | 16 | 20 |
| Early's division *a* | 261 | 3,781 | 4,846 | 9,073 |
| Johnson's division | 429 | 4,362 | 5,688 | 10,464 |
| Rodes' division *b* | 470 | 5,898 | 7,871 | 13,381 |
| Total | 1,176 | 14,041 | 18,421 | 32,938 |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | |
| Staff | 12 | ..... | 12 | 18 |
| Anderson's division | 455 | 5,684 | 7,009 | 11,933 |
| Heth's division | 433 | 6,038 | 7,252 | 13,740 |
| Wilcox's division | 470 | 6,571 | 7,988 | 12,566 |
| Total | 1,370 | 18,293 | 22,261 | 38,257 |
| Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: *c* | | | | |
| Hampton's division | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Lee's division | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Artillery, Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 16 | 345 | 403 | 576 |
| Second Army Corps | 78 | 1,417 | 1,775 | 2,598 |
| Third Army Corps | 89 | 1,996 | 2,333 | 3,358 |
| Cavalry Corps | 17 | 340 | 389 | 596 |
| Total | 200 | 4,100 | 4,900 | 7,128 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | |
| Valley District *c* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Maryland Line *c* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Provost guard | 17 | 239 | 326 | 523 |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 9 | 189 | 233 | 344 |
| Total | 26 | 428 | 559 | 867 |
| Grand total | 2,772 | 36,862 | 46,141 | 79,190 |

*a* Hoke's brigade detached; not reported.
*b* Twenty-first Georgia and Forty-third North Carolina Regiments detached; not reported.
*c* Not reported.

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*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Henrico, Va., Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, C. S. Army, commanding, March 10, 1864; headquarters Richmond, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| City Guard Forces | 52 | 928 | 928 | 1,309 | 1,616 |
| Camp Lee | 21 | 661 | 665 | 696 | 2,442 |
| C. S. military prisons | 25 | 393 | 433 | 490 | 683 |
| Total | 98 | 1,982 | 2,026 | 2,495 | 4,741 |

*Troops in the Department of Henrico, Va., Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, C. S. Army, commanding, March* 10, 1864.

*City Guard Forces.*

Lieut. Col. WYATT M. ELLIOTT.

1st Regiment Engineer Troops, Lieut. Col. T. M. R. Talcott.

*Camp Lee.*

Col. J. C. SHIELDS.

46th North Carolina (detachment).
36th Virginia (detachment).
Captain Page's cavalry company (D, 39th Virginia Battalion).
Confederate Guard (Company A, 9th Virginia Infantry).
Engineer troops.
Maryland recruits.
Paroled and exchanged prisoners.

*C. S. Military Prisons, Danville, Va.*

Maj. M. MORFIT.

32d North Carolina, Company C.
45th North Carolina, Companies D and G.
53d North Carolina, Company C.
3d Virginia, Company D.
12th Virginia, Company I.
18th Virginia, Company G.
28th Virginia, Company I.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., March* 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 9th instant, calling attention to the importance of a speedy organization of the minutemen of the counties bordering on the Alleghany Mountains, for the protection of that valuable region, has been received and referred to the Conscript Bureau, with directions to adopt early and efficient measures to carry out your suggestions.

In reply to your communication with regard to Major Wingfield, chief commissary of Anderson's division, I have the honor to inform you that I ordered he should be relieved from duty with that division as soon as the application of General Hill reached me, which was on yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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NAVY DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, March* 11, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: I beg leave to call your attention to the inclosed extracts from letters of Flag Officer Lynch and Lieutenant Loyall, C S. Navy,

dated the 8th instant, and respectfully request that instructions may be given to have the iron plates referred to transported to Kinston and Halifax at the earliest moment. The gun-boats at those points are completed with the exception of the iron plating, and the mechanics are delayed in their work waiting for it. The work upon these vessels has been delayed for months by the want of transportation, and now that they are very near completion I respectfully urge that no further delay on this account may be had, for unless completed at an early day the detention of the boat at Kinston by the fall of Neuse River will be disastrous and may cause her destruction. The subject is of so much importance that I suggest the detail by the Quartermaster-General of an officer specially charged with it.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
*Secretary of the Navy.*

[First indorsement.]

MARCH 12, 1864.

Quartermaster-General, for inquiry and remarks.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary.*

[Second indorsement.]

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*March* 15, 1864.

Respectfully returned to honorable Secretary of War.

At present forage and food necessary for our armies in the field demand our entire transportation.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

Inform honorable Secretary.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Inclosure.]

*Extract from Flag Officer Lynch's letter of the 6th instant to Secretary of the Navy.*

Fourteen car-loads of plate iron arrived last evening, and for a week past we have had two car-loads waiting transportation to Kinston and Halifax. The whole rolling capacity of the road, except passenger trains, has been monopolized by the army, and I fear the completion of the gun-boats at those places will be delayed. Besides my own occasional visits to the depot, a reliable officer is detailed to be there twice every day and apply for and report the prospects of obtaining transportation. The rights of the Navy are not respected, its wants are utterly disregarded, and it is in the power of an acting assistant quartermaster to cause our transportation to be set aside at will. The importance of speedily completing the iron-clad on the Neuse and Roanoke does not seem to be comprehended.

*Extract from Lieut. B. P. Loyall's letter to Secretary of the Navy, of the same date.*

Flag Officer Lynch telegraphs me to-day that he cannot procure transportation for me from Wilmington. We are in want of it here.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *March* 11, 1864.

First Lieut. Theodore S. Garnett, jr., having reported for duty in accordance with his commission, is hereby announced as aide-de-camp, Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart:

H. B. McCLELLAN,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HANOVER JUNCTION, *March* 12, 1864.

General ELZEY:

Colonel Beale reports Kilpatrick's whole cavalry force, with six regiments negro troops, at New Dragon Bridge, constructing a bridge to Urbanna.

R. D. JOHNSTON,
*Brigadier-General.*

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RICHMOND, *March* 12, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond:*

SIR: I have received a dispatch from His Excellency the President ordering me to report to the Department of War and disapproving of my conduct and that of Commodore Lynch in so nearly producing collision between the Army and Navy. I trust when the following statement is read, with the accompanying papers, it will be clear that I am in no way to blame in this matter.

I was first made aware of any claim made by the Navy Department which would require the detention of a ship, the Alice, on the 6th instant, by the agent of South Carolina approaching me (with your authority, releasing the Government claim), for permission for the Alice to leave, informing me at the same time that Mr. Peters, Navy agent, threatened to detain her. I sent for Mr. Peters and received the first intimation of the claim of the Secretary of the Navy. Though, under your letter by Major Bayne and the act of Congress regulating exports, I might have allowed the vessel to go, to avoid difficulty I telegraphed you for instructions, at the same time informing Mr. Peters that the general commanding alone had the power or authority to regulate the motions of these vessels, and application should be made to me to stop them, as it was in all cases to permit them to leave. You replied that your release of the Alice referred only to the War Department, and directed the claim of the Navy to be sustained. I accordingly detained the ship, informing Mr. Peters and yourself (see letter to Mr. Peters, page 210, Official Record, Department Cape Fear). No mention was made of steamer Hansa.

The War Department was fully aware that it was entirely my province to regulate the movements of the blockade-runners, and, to avoid difficulty, directed me explicitly to sustain the claims of the Navy. Not the slightest difficulty could have occurred had either of the naval authorities present made me acquainted with the wishes of the Secretary of the Navy or specified the vessel they wished detained. They did neither, but proceeded to act entirely independent of and contrary to my authority. On the evening of the 8th instant I received a note from Mr. Andrea, consignee of the Hansa (marked No. 1, accompanying papers), stating that Flag Officer Lynch had ordered his vessel under the guns of the North Carolina; that he declined to obey, and desired me to take her in charge. This was the first intimation I received from any quarter whatever relative to the Hansa. I accordingly wrote paper No. 2 to the naval commander, referring Mr. Andrea's note for explanation, and adding that I had sent a guard on board the Hansa with orders to permit no one to approach without proper authority, an order very frequently given in my command. Before an answer was returned I had received information that the Navy had actually seized the ship, weighed her anchor, and carried her down the stream to the anchorage of the North Carolina and placed a marine guard upon her. I then received late at night the reply of the naval commandant to my note No. 2 (see No. 3). No other document than this is wanting to fix the whole blame of the affair, by which I mean the unwarrantable usurpation of the military authority by this officer as unaccountable, as uncalled for. My action in regard to the Alice, but two days previous, should have convinced the naval authorities of what I would do in the premises had they informed me of their wishes, and of which no doubt Mr. Peters would have informed me but for the very premature action of the naval commandant. He knew well the etiquette and the authority. He knew also that I would not permit interference, but feeling secure that he could plead the orders of the Secretary of the Navy, orders which I am sure the honorable Secretary could never have intended for execution in the mode pursued, he commenced at once to violate authority and right by seizing the ship. The ship had not even cleared for sea; had not applied for a pilot's permit; had not asked for the authority from headquarters, without which no vessel is allowed to leave the town even, much less go to sea. If he did not know this he ought to have known it. The orders relative to the port have been published for months in the daily papers.

He seized the ship. The honorable Secretary of the Navy does not appear to have ordered this. He says he "did not interfere as long as she lay at the wharf," but only when she hauled out into the stream. There are two remarks to be made here:

First. How long did he have the orders of which he speaks, but of which he never informed me until after he had used force? Had there been any desire on his part to avoid a collision some information would have been given me; but—

Second. Why seize the vessel because she was hauled out? She had simply left the wharf to make room for another vessel.

The remark about "slipping away" is simply absurd, and no one better knows it than Flag Officer Lynch.

He concludes his note by threatening me with his whole force in execution of his orders, "but hopes I will do nothing to interrupt the harmony that ought to prevail between the two branches of the service;" this after deliberately usurping my functions. He could

have done no more to bring about a collision had he ordered his forces into one of my batteries for the purpose of preventing the Hansa from going to sea, and then pleaded the orders of the Secretary of the Navy, which might with equal propriety have been construed to that effect.

Having received the information of his seizure of the vessel from the port officer of the guard (who had in obedience to my orders gone on board the Hansa) I wrote note No. 4 to the naval commandant, requiring the marine guard to be immediately removed. This I sent by Assistant Adjutant-General Maj. James H. Hill. Captain Lynch refused to withdraw the guard, and refused also the request of my staff officer to put his answer in writing.

I might stop here, but it is necessary to add that I did not act, as I might justly have acted, and put a stop at once to this unlawful proceeding. I sent a dispatch to General Cooper reporting this conduct, and stating that, desirous of avoiding collision, I referred to the President and requested the removal of the naval commandant. The second in command of the naval forces, Captain Muse, was visiting me officially to communicate his orders at the time I wrote the dispatch. I read it to him and sent it off, at the same time assuring Captain Muse that as far as he was concerned there could be no chance of a collision by me in this case. Captain Muse, in reply, stated that understanding I had already a guard on board the Hansa, and that I would not permit her to leave without the assent of the naval authorities, he would withdraw his guard at once. He then left, but very shortly returned with the information that Flag-Officer Lynch had given him orders not to do so. This in the presence of officers of my staff.

Early in the morning I ordered in a battalion from Martin's brigade to act as guards, and placing them to prevent communication temporarily between the fleet and the shore I sent the Cape Fear, C. S. steamer, of the Quartermaster's Department, with a guard on board, weighed the anchor of the Hansa, had her removed to the quartermaster's wharf and moored. There was no collision nor appearance of any, nor did any occur at all, though after all this the North Carolina and Yadkin were brought up and placed in a threatening position with all their boats.

It is to be remarked here, referring to the letter of Flag Officer Lynch (marked No. 3), that he states, "If the smoke-stack of the latter vessel (referring to the North Carolina) were in place she would have taken a convenient position instead of moving the Hansa." It now appears, however, that though he felt obliged on this account to seize the Hansa illegally and move her to the North Carolina he yet was able, when I had restored the Hansa to her proper position and control, to bring up the North Carolina, minus her smoke-stack, and place her apparently in a position to threaten me or to retake the ship. This is consistent, at any rate. As soon as the Cape Fear got under way to bring the Hansa from the position to which she had been taken by the naval commandant communication was restored. A guard was left on the Hansa sufficient to insure her safety and her owners were notified that she could not leave unless by the consent of the Navy agent, a telegram to that effect having been received after she was secured from the Secretary of War.

Late on the night of the 9th instant telegram No. 6 was received from General Cooper. No collision being anticipated or further trouble, the guard was withdrawn, and early the next morning, Com-

modore Lynch having left, Commander Muse was again informed that the Hansa would not be permitted to sail unless with consent of the naval authorities.

I hope the above will fully satisfy the President as far as I am concerned. The correspondence referred to is forwarded herewith, which is all that relates to this particular affair. But that the President may be fully satisfied as to my course relative to the Navy, and co-operation with them as well in this matter, I respectfully refer to paper marked 7, which is a list showing dates of letters to Flag Officer Lynch since August last. These letters are all in the accompanying volume of the Official Record of the Department of Cape Fear. They are few in number, being only seventeen, and very brief. They are confined, with a very few exceptions, to answers to the flag officer's requests for assistance (invariably granted when in my power), and to one or two letters of suggestion as to the common good or common defense. I request, in order to a full understanding of my course, not only as connected with the present matter but heretofore, that these letters may be read and weighed. They need no comment from me, but they belong to the subject.

If I do not now bring forward the correspondence which occurred previous to last summer it is for the reason: First, that since June last, when Flag Officer Lynch had the assurance to report me to the War Department for discourtesy and breach of faith because I refused to let him have two Brooke guns destined for the defenses of the Cape Fear on the gun-boat Raleigh, and lent to me by the honorable Secretary of the Navy himself to be mounted in my batteries until the Raleigh should be ready to receive them, I have declined any communication with him, the cases above mentioned excepted. He wanted to put the guns on Roanoke River. I refused. The Raleigh was not ready when he asked for them, nor is she ready now. Second, because if I should find it necessary, which I do not expect, to put any more weight upon this officer as to his course while in the naval command of North Carolina, and as to his interference with me, for my own exculpation in this matter, the previous correspondence, which is all here, will form the subject of a separate communication.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 14, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

These are the two telegrams* which you expressed a desire to see on Saturday. The first relates to the first trip of the Alice, and was indorsed by the letter of the honorable Secretary of the Navy. The second was on the receipt from him of the telegram informing that General Whiting did not recognize the rights of the Navy. After the receipt by him of my second telegram, he gave notice to Mr. Peters of his readiness to co-operate and detained the Alice till a satisfactory arrangement was effected by Mr. Peters.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

* See inclosures A and B.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

WILMINGTON, N. C., *March* 8, 1864.

General WHITING,
*Wilmington:*

SIR: Commodore Lynch has sent an order to the steamer Hansa to drop alongside the North Carolina. I have declined to do so, and beg that you will either allow the steamer to lie at a more accessible spot or take her under your charge until all troubles or questions in suspense are settled.

I am, sir, yours, most respectfully,

TH. ANDREA.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, March* 8, 1864.

Original letter, and first and only communication to me that the steamer was to be detained.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, March* 8, 1864.

Flag Officer LYNCH,
*Comdg. C. S. Naval Forces N. C., present Flag Officer:*

I have just received the following communication from Mr. Andrea, agent for steamer Hansa:*

* * * * * * *

I respectfully refer this communication to you for explanation, taking it for granted that there must be some misapprehension. In the mean time, without designing to prejudice this case, I have the honor to inform you that I will permit no interference with any vessel whatever in this department not belonging to the C. S. Navy by any authority but my own or by orders emanating from the War Department.

A guard is ordered upon the Hansa and no person will be permitted to approach her without proper authority.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

WILMINGTON, *March* 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING:

GENERAL: I am just in receipt of your note respecting the Hansa. The order to me from the honorable Secretary of the Navy is not to allow the Hansa or the Alice to proceed to sea unless the agents or the owners of those vessels consent to take the quantity of cotton which the Navy Department claims the right to send. The agents of both vessels have been notified of my instructions. So long as the vessels were alongside the wharves I did not interfere with them, hoping to the last moment that matters might be ad-

* See inclosure No. 1.

justed; but when one of them, with cargo on board, hauls out into the stream, and it is given out by those belonging to her that she is about to leave, it becomes my duty to obey the order I have received.

Commander Muse is ordered to keep the Hansa near the North Carolina, so as to prevent her slipping off. If the smoke-stack of the latter vessel were in place she would have taken a convenient position, instead of moving the Hansa.

Commander Muse is further ordered not to use force except in the last resort, but if it be necessary to enforce the order, to exercise all the means at his disposal. In this I will sustain him against any authority not paramount to that of the honorable Secretary of the Navy, and the only one I recognize as paramount thereto is that of His Excellency the President of the Confederate States.

In the hope that you will not bring on a collision between two branches of a profession which should ever act in harmony,

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

W. F. LYNCH,
*Flag Officer.*

[Inclosure No. 4.]

HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, March* 8, 1864.

Flag Officer LYNCH,
*Comdg. C. S. Naval Forces N. C., present Flag Officer:*

I have just received your note of this morning in reply to mine relative to the detention of the steamer Hansa. I can enter into no discussion upon this subject in reply at this time. My officer of the guard, Lieutenant Thomas, reports to me that a marine guard is now on board of the steamer Hansa. I have only to say respectfully that I require the marine guard to be withdrawn at once from the steamer Hansa. I request an immediate answer, if you please, by the bearer, Maj. J. H. Hill, assistant adjutant-general.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, March* 8, 1864.

As the bearer of this letter, I have to say that Captain Lynch would not give me a written reply to this letter, though the major-general commanding requested it.

Respectfully,

JAMES H. HILL,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, N. C., March* 8, 1864.

Remarks of the major-general commanding the Department of the Cape Fear upon Captain Lynch's (C. S. Navy) letter of this date, herewith inclosed:

As to the first paragraph of Captain Lynch's note of 8th instant, in which he states that the order to him of the honorable Secretary of the Navy is "not to allow the Hansa or the Alice to proceed to sea unless the agents of the owners of those vessels consent to take

the quantity of cotton which the Navy Department claims the right to send," I have to say, with all respect to the honorable Secretary of the Navy, if his orders are as alleged, that in my opinion neither by the custom of service, the etiquette subsisting between the military and Navy Departments, by the act of the Confederate Congress regulating foreign exports, &c., or the regulations of the Government, signed by the Secretaries of War and Treasury, has Captain Lynch, of the Navy, anything whatever to do with exercising the authority he claims in the military department of the Cape Fear in this case. I suggest respectfully that the proper course should have been to communicate to the commanding general that there was a necessity to detain a vessel. No vessel can leave this port without his express authority, if he has any.

Second. Captain Lynch states in his second paragraph, "As long as the vessels were alongside the wharf I did not interfere." He has no right to interfere at all here with any vessel not belonging to the C. S. Navy, either with the orders of the honorable Secretary of the Navy or without them. If the case were supposable he might with equal propriety have orders to take command of my troops and this department. Again, Captain Lynch well knows, from published orders and from his own experience, that no vessel can pass the forts without special written orders and telegraph dispatches from these headquarters, and he could have communicated to me the desire or order of his Department to stop the vessel. He did not do it.

Third. He orders Commander Muse to "keep the Hansa near the North Carolina, so as to prevent her slipping off." This is an absurdity, consequent on his usurpation of authority in assuming to take charge of and move the Hansa under the guns of the North Carolina, he well knowing that not even his own vessels can "slip off" without my authority or permission.

Fourth. He states that "Commander Muse is ordered not to use force except in last resort, but if it be necessary to enforce the order to exercise all the means at his disposal." The order which he alleges to have received is, in his own words, to "prevent the Alice or Hansa from proceeding to sea;" that is all. When the agent of the Hansa informed me that the Navy commandant had ordered his vessel under the guns of the North Carolina, an unwarrantable proceeding, I sent a guard on board the ship to take her in my own custody. The officer of the guard found her moved already and a guard of marines on board. I demanded their removal. Captain Lynch refused. I have increased my guard, but have forborne to place Captain Lynch under guard himself for conduct subversive of all I am put here for. I have so forborne because, first, I have His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to appeal to, and because no collision can originate with me, and because also I can afford to have even my authority questioned or defied rather than produce a scandal such as this has nearly been.

Fifth. He concludes his extraordinary note with the singular remark, all things considered, that he hopes I "will not bring on a collision between two branches of a profession which should act in harmony."

It should be observed that, acting under the orders of the Secretary of War, received on the 6th instant, I had detained the Alice on behalf of the Navy Department. No notification whatever had been received by me as to the Hansa until her agent informed me of her improper seizure.

Lastly, I have to say that this is by no means the first occasion of usurpation by Captain Lynch or of forbearance on my part. The correspondence between this officer and myself for more than a year I am willing to submit without comment. I have often thought it due to myself personally to report him and request his removal. I have been loth to do so from the regard and admiration I have ever felt for his branch of service, the Navy, with which I have been so much associated. It now, however, becomes my duty not only to myself but to the cause and to the country to report him.

I may say, if I have refrained heretofore, it has been because his course here had convinced me that with his opportunities, if he could do no good for his country's defense, he might perhaps do no harm. In May last he wrote me requesting that an appeal should be made to the President "before his small but resolute force should come into collision with my comparatively overwhelming one." Captain Lynch is always ready for this kind of thing, but when a few days ago I suggested that the force at his disposal might be useful relative to the late attempt to capture General Hébert in doing picket duty, instead of lying in perfect safety at the town and doing nothing, he answers me to the effect, as will be seen by his letter herewith forwarded, that he cannot rely upon his "small but resolute force" as against the enemy. This is at any rate an insult to his officers and men, for he has never tried them.

I have therefore respectfully, in the name of the country, the Navy, and of myself, as charged with the command and defense of this important place, to request that the President will remove this officer and place some one here who will at least attempt to aid me.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 6.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, March 2,* 1864.

Flag Officer W. F. LYNCH,
*Commanding C. S. Naval Forces, N. C.:*

FLAG OFFICER: Night before last a party of the enemy, in two small boats with muffled oars, rowed in between Fort Caswell and Bald Head and landed at the upper part of Smithville, conducted, evidently, by some one perfectly familiar with the localities. They went to the house occupied by General Hébert for his residence, and succeeded in capturing Captain Kelly, of his staff. A flag-of-truce boat appeared yesterday from the enemy, with which I permitted communication. It was learned that the party was commanded by a Lieutenant Jones,* of the U. S. Navy, and that their object was the capture of General Hébert. A few days since a party of 6 men, belonging to the Tenth North Carolina Battalion, were ordered, about sundown, to take a boat in which some of the

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*Note on original by General Whiting:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT, *March* 8, 1864.

Lieutenant-Commander Cushing [was] for some time with Captain Maffitt on the coast survey in Wilmington, in 1855 and 1856. Lieutenant Jones accompanied him. Cushing knew the boat pass by the east end of Battery Island to Smithville, which could only be known by a pilot or a coast-survey man.

W. H. C. W.

crew of the steamer Pet had landed, along the beach to Fort Caswell. They took the opportunity to desert. No doubt on their information, and perhaps also a knowledge of localities formed by men formerly on the coast survey, the attempt was made. It was certainly very daring, and the actors deserve great credit.

You are aware of the impossibility of discovering small boats from the shore at night in a wide entrance. To avoid a repetition of any such attempt, I now respectfully call your attention to the suggestion that, if you have the means at command, guard vessels or boats be established by the Navy at such points as may be regarded most suitable. I will be able to supply a number of boats for the use of the Navy, though I hope you will be able to station armed vessels as a relief or reserve for outpost guard-boats. These boats should be required to bring to all boats or vessels moving in their vicinity at night, and thoroughly ascertain their character, and to that end, should this or any similar suggestion be adopted, instructions will be given to the military authorities, that no difficulty may occur in complete co-operation.

This matter is now presented for your consideration, and I shall be glad to hear from you on the subject.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING.
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 7.]

HEADQUARTERS NAVAL DEFENSES,
*Wilmington, N. C., March 2,* 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
*C. S. Army, Comdg. Department of the Cape Fear:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, and am disposed to do all in my power to prevent a recurrence of the transaction to which you allude. Unfortunately, the men under my command consist mostly of conscripts, whose loyalty is not unquestionable, and if sent in boats they might, as twice elsewhere and once here (in the case of the Tenth North Carolina Battalion), desert to the enemy.

The North Carolina is having a new smoke-stack and some repairs to her battery, preparatory to taking a position lower down, and the other iron-clad is being pushed forward toward completion with all expedition. The small new steamer Yadkin and the tug Equator are fitting for the same locality, and their cruising about occasionally will be far more effective than rowing guard with boats manned with unreliable crews. With those vessels and a cordon of sentinels the enemy cannot land, or landing cannot escape.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. F. LYNCH,
*Flag Officer.*

[Inclosure No. 8.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, N. C., March* 8, 1864.

General COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

To-day, without any communication, Captain Lynch, of the Navy, took possession of and placed a guard of marines upon the Hansa, a

ship belonging to North Carolina and to private parties, and entirely under the authority of the commanding general, the purpose being to prevent her from leaving port. The commanding general alone has authority here to stop vessels or to permit them to leave. On referring to Captain Lynch for explanation, he alleges orders of the Secretary of the Navy. Having placed a guard on the Hansa, I have required the removal of the marines. He refuses, and has threatened me with using his whole force to sustain his usurpation of authority.

I forbear, to avoid collision, putting Captain Lynch and his people under guard, but for the good of the service and for harmony I request the President to remove this officer from here at once. I can permit no such interference with my command.

Please to place this before the President at once.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 9.]

RICHMOND, *March* 9, 1864.

General W. H. C. WHITING:

Telegram of last night received. Desist at once from any collision with Captain Lynch or his people. The merits of the case will be properly considered here, and all the difficulties adjusted.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
*Wilmington, March* 10, 1864.

On receipt of which, guard removed from Hansa, no collision having occurred.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure No. 10.]

HEADQUARTERS,
*Wilmington, March* 10, 1864.

List of letters in Official Record of the Department of the Cape Fear from Major-General Whiting, commanding, to naval commandant, Wilmington, from September, 1863, to present date:

Page 105. Reply to note about labor in naval and military service, November 30, 1863.

Page 111. Concerning wheel of Confederate States steamer Phantom; answer returned. Not in possession of Navy, December 3, 1863.

Page 119. To Mr. Peters, Navy agent, requesting a guard on the ground that the Navy guard was withdrawn by naval commandant because they could not be prevented from deserting. Attention is called to this December 5, 1863.

Page 125. To naval commandant, in reply to a request to remove obstructions in the Neuse, December 11.

Page 145. Informing flag officer of confidential letter of the President. Attention called to this as illustrating desire to co-operate, December 21.

Page 167. Answer to request for coal, January 14, 1864.

Page 168. Relative to coal, January 15, 1864.

Page 179. Relative to a proposal to wreck steamer Ranger, February 2, 1864.

Page 184. In reply to request to transport gun-boat iron, February 6.

Page 187. February 7, in answer to a request to afford protection to steamer Dee being wrecked by Navy.

Page 191. In reply to request not to interfere with the Confederate States steamer Yadkin, February 14.
Page 205. To Captain Muse, asking for boats, February 24.
Page 208. Account of attack on General Hébert, and asking that Navy shall assist in placing guard-boats, March 2.
Page 209. Calling attention to sale of goods from steamer Advance, and offering to reserve such as wanted by Navy, March 4.
Page 210. To Mr. Peters, Navy agent, detention of Alice.
Page 210. Naval commandant, informing the condition of Coquette.
Page 216. Naval commandant, answer to request of boats by Commander Muse, March 9.

W. H. C. WHITING.
*Major-General.*

[Inclosure A.*]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., February* 12, 1864.

General W. H. C. WHITING,
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

The Navy Department claims the right to one-third of cargo of Alice. I have no authority to allow privileges interfering with arrangements of that Department, the rights of which must be respected.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Inclosure B.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, March* 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

I had authorized steamers, under arrangements with the State of South Carolina, to take out cotton for the State in lieu of that which they were to take for the Department. I have no reference to the engagements or obligations of vessels to take out cotton for the Navy. Mr. Mallory insists on his claim, and it must prevail. The regulations to be made by the President will, in a few days, settle the whole matter.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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HEADQUARTERS HAMPTON'S DIVISION,
*Milford, March* 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. H. CHILTON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General (through Major-General Stuart):*

GENERAL: In a communication of the 11th instant Major-General Stuart informs me that "the commanding general has decided that it is inadmissible to station Young's (Butler's) brigade in the vicinity of Richmond," and he directs that this brigade be stationed somewhere on the lower Rappahannock. I must protest, most respectfully, against this location for this broken-down brigade, where they will have to be constantly on the alert to guard against attacks of the enemy, and where their only supply of forage will have to be obtained from the Northern Neck. This statement is

* To Seddon's indorsement, p. 1222.

made by Major Waite to General Young, and from all I can learn it is correct. As I regard the location selected by General [Lee?] unsuitable and dangerous, it is due to myself to declare that I cannot hold myself responsible either for the condition or safety of the brigade if it is placed there.

I beg to call the attention of the commanding general to the following telegraphic correspondence between Major-General Stuart and myself, which occurred to-day:

Should Butler report for duty he will be assigned to the two South Carolina regiments till a full South Carolina brigade is formed, and Young will take the legions, to which will be added a Georgia regiment.

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

To this I replied:

I cannot consent to the division of Butler's brigade until the other regiments are brought on.

I have received no orders from competent authority to break up one of my brigades, and until such orders come I shall not divide Butler's brigade. I respectfully request the commanding general not to authorize any change in my command without at least consulting my wishes on the subject.

I am, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

---

PETERSBURG, *March* 14, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

The reports from North Carolina are so threatening that I would advise Kemper's brigade be sent back immediately to Goldsborough, so as to be ready to re-enforce Kinston or Halifax.

GEO. E. PICKETT.

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PETERSBURG, *March* 14, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

The following dispatch just received from General Ransom:

Colonel Jones telegraphs that the enemy certainly intend moving in this direction. He says they have 1,200 cavalry and 6,000 infantry at Washington. I think they will attack Halifax or Kinston, according to circumstances.

GEO. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

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ORANGE, *March* 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

Scouts from Hampshire County report accumulation of enemy's cavalry and infantry at New Creek. Their information leads them to think a raid through western part of the State is contemplated. This agrees with what was yesterday sent you by mail.

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., ARMY OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Monroe Draft, Va., March* 14, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commander-in-Chief, Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 9th instant, in reference to the defenses of the Department of Western Virginia.

On examination of General Early's report and the map accompanying it, I find that his proposed line of defense, as soon as it enters the recognized limits of this department, diverges so much to the south as to leave exposed and entirely undefended the counties of Greenbrier and Monroe, and that portion of Alleghany through which the enemy in his late raid penetrated this department to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

The troops of this command are now holding positions 50 miles in advance of General Early's proposed line, and are disposed of and occupied as follows: One brigade at Monroe Draft, near Burnt Bridge, 3½ miles south of Lewisburg, and actively employed constructing a line of defenses along the left bank of Howard's Creek, covering the roads from Lewisburg and White Sulphur Springs; the other at the Narrows of New River. With this brigade I propose to occupy and construct at Princeton a large self-sustaining work, Princeton being the salient or key point of that section of this department lying west of New River. It masks and effectually guards all the main roads leading to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, the lead mines of Wythe, and the salt-works. Four companies of cavalry attached to the First Brigade are stationed at Meadow Bluff, 16 miles in advance of Lewisburg, and a battalion of partisan rangers at Alderson's Ferry, Greenbrier River. The engineer troops are employed at Covington reconstructing the bridge over Jackson's River at that point, recently destroyed by the enemy. As soon as this is completed they will be moved to the Burnt Bridge, over the Cow Pasture River, Central Railroad, to construct the proposed defensive works at that point. Colonel Jackson's command is at the Warm Springs. I expect to visit his command the latter part of the present week.

In view, general, of the present disposition and occupation of my forces (and the extent of the country they are called upon to occupy and protect will necessarily prevent me from furnishing as large a detail as that mentioned in your communication), I have endeavored to put myself in communication with Captain Howard, engineer, and anticipate meeting him at the Warm Springs.

After two applications to the War Office, I have been unable to ascertain the boundaries of this department.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 65. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, Va., March* 18, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXVIII. The First South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Black, and the Second South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Lipscomb, will proceed

without delay to South Carolina and report to General Beauregard, commanding, for duty; the dismounted officers and men and the baggage by railroad, and the horses in charge of mounted detachment by highway.

XXIX. The Fourth South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Rutledge; the Fifth South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Dunovant; the Sixth South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Aiken; the Seventh Georgia Cavalry, Colonel White, and the three remaining companies of the Twentieth Georgia Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Millen, will at once proceed in light marching order by highway to the Army of Northern Virginia. The train now attached to each regiment and to the battalion will accompany them on the march, and will transport cooking utensils only. The baggage conformed to regulation will be transported by railroad.

XXX. The companies of South Carolina cavalry commanded by Captains Tucker, Wallace, Boykin, Trenholm, and Magee will be organized with the cavalry of the Holcombe Legion into a regiment to be known as the Seventh Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, and commanded by Col. W. P. Shingler. The companies named will to this end proceed without delay by highway to Richmond, Va., in light marching order, and accompanied by sufficient transportation for the march. The baggage conformed to regulation will be transported by railroad.

XXXI. The Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth South Carolina Cavalry will, upon their arrival in the Army of Northern Virginia, be organized into a brigade, to take command of which Brigadier-General Butler will be assigned, and which will be attached to the division of Major-General Hampton.

XXXII. Major-General Hampton is charged with the prompt movement of the cavalry, as directed in the preceding paragraph.

XXXIII. The Hampton Legion Infantry, Col. M. W. Gary, will move at once with its transportation and baggage from the Department of East Tennessee, via Asheville, N. C., to Greenville, S. C., from which point the officers and men will receive furloughs each of twenty days, for the purpose of procuring horses and mounting and equipping themselves for service as mounted infantry. Upon reassembling at Greenville the regiment will move promptly with its trains to Richmond, Va., for assignment to duty on the Peninsula.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. —.

HEADQUARTERS,
*Kinston, N. C., March* 18, 1864.

I. The special charge of the outposts and matters relating to blockade-runners, disloyal persons, &c., is confided to Brigadier-General Hoke, to whom all reports and representations on the subject will be made. His decision in such cases will be considered final, unless he prefers to refer them to these headquarters.

By command of Brigadier-General Corse:

P. B. HOOE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 66. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., March* 19, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IX. Saltville, Va., will hereafter be considered as in the Department of Southwestern Virginia.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*March* 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. D. IMBODEN, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The man Langley mentioned in your letter of the 11th instant came to me recommended by Major Gilmor, but I do not know how far he deserves confidence. I understood that he had a permit to go in and out of the lines of the enemy as agent of a Northern newspaper to obtain copies of our papers. He is not employed by General Hill or General Stuart, but was directed to communicate any intelligence he might have to the latter in writing. While General Early was in the valley I directed that Langley should not be permitted to leave the lower end of it to come within our lines, and that he should be arrested if he did so. I desire that you will observe the same directions. It will not prevent him from being useful if he wishes, and will prevent him from doing us harm. Of Manzy I know nothing, and you will deal with him as prudence may dictate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, March* 20, 1864; *headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | |
| Staff | 16 | ..... | 16 | 20 |
| Early's division *a* | 342 | 3,917 | 5,086 | 9,151 |
| Johnson's division | 467 | 4,568 | 5,884 | 10,470 |
| Rodes' division *b* | 468 | 6,143 | 8,186 | 13,431 |
| Total | 1,293 | 14,628 | 19,172 | 33,072 |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | |
| Staff | 15 | ..... | 15 | 17 |
| Anderson's division | 486 | 5,831 | 7,215 | 12,025 |
| Heth's division | 448 | 6,245 | 7,620 | 13,771 |
| Wilcox's division | 505 | 6,793 | 8,328 | 12,515 |
| Total | 1,454 | 18,869 | 23,178 | 38,328 |

*a* Hoke's brigade detached; not reported.
*b* Forty-third North Carolina and Twenty-first Georgia Regiments detached; not reported.

*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, &c.*—Continued.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: | | | | |
| Staff | 13 | ..... | 13 | 15 |
| Hampton's division | 237 | 3,133 | 3,878 | 7,784 |
| Fitzhugh Lee's division *a* | 86 | 1,345 | 1,566 | 7,978 |
| Total | 336 | 4,478 | 5,457 | 15,777 |
| Artillery, Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 15 | 363 | 424 | 586 |
| Second Army Corps | 86 | 1,349 | 1,720 | 2,621 |
| Third Army Corps | 88 | 1,987 | 2,349 | 3,342 |
| Cavalry Corps | 18 | 367 | 414 | 607 |
| Total | 207 | 4,066 | 4,907 | 7,156 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | |
| Valley District | 63 | 736 | 906 | 2,066 |
| Maryland Line | 45 | 761 | 889 | 1,305 |
| Provost guard | 20 | 237 | 334 | 523 |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 12 | 200 | 247 | 345 |
| Total | 140 | 1,934 | 2,376 | 4,239 |
| Grand total | 3,430 | 43,975 | 55,090 | 98,572 |

*a* Only Wickham's brigade present; Chambliss' and Lomax's absent.

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*Organization of the artillery in the Army of Northern Virginia, Brig. Gen. William N. Pendleton, C. S. Army, commanding, March* 19, 1864.*

FIRST CORPS.

Brig. Gen. E. PORTER ALEXANDER.

*Cabell's Battalion.*

Col. HENRY C. CABELL.
Maj. S. P. HAMILTON.

Manly's (North Carolina) battery.
Pulaski (Georgia) Artillery.
Richmond (Virginia) Howitzers, 1st Company.
Troup (Georgia) Artillery.

*Haskell's Battalion.*

Maj. JOHN C. HASKELL.
Maj. JAMES REILLY.

Branch (North Carolina) Artillery.
Nelson (Virginia) Artillery.
Palmetto (South Carolina) Light Battery.
Rowan (North Carolina) Artillery.

*Huger's Battalion.*†

Lieut. Col. FRANK HUGER.
Maj. TYLER C. JORDAN.

Ashland (Virginia) Artillery.
Bedford (Virginia) Artillery.
Brooks (South Carolina) Artillery.
Madison (Louisiana) Artillery.
Parker's (Virginia) battery.
Taylor's (Virginia) battery.

*Jones' Battalion.*‡

Col. HILARY P. JONES.
Maj. JOHN P. W. READ.

Blount's (Virginia) battery.
Fauquier (Virginia) Artillery.
Hampden (Virginia) Artillery.
Richmond Fayette (Virginia) Artillery.

* As indicated by Special Orders, No. 77, headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, of this date, which assigned the field officers as above.

† Formerly Alexander's battalion, and serving at this date in East Tennessee.

‡ Formerly Dearing's battalion.

*Washington (Louisiana) Artillery.*

Col. J. B. WALTON.
Maj. B. F. ESHLEMAN.

Hero's (3d) company.
Norcom's (4th) company.
Owen's (1st) company.
Richardson's (2d) company.

SECOND CORPS.

Brig. Gen. ARMISTEAD L. LONG.

*Braxton's Battalion.**

Lieut. Col. CARTER M. BRAXTON.
Maj. MARCELLUS N. MOORMAN.

Alleghany (Virginia) Artillery.
Chesapeake (Maryland) Artillery.
1st Maryland Battery.
Lee (Virginia) Battery.

*Brown's Battalion.†*

Col. J. THOMPSON BROWN.
Lieut. Col. R. A. HARDAWAY.

Powhatan (Virginia) Artillery.
Richmond (Virginia) Howitzers, 2d Company.
Richmond (Virginia) Howitzers, 3d Company.
Rockbridge (Virginia) Artillery.
Salem (Virginia) Flying Artillery.

*Carter's Battalion.*

Col. THOMAS H. CARTER.
Maj. RICHARD C. M. PAGE.

Jeff Davis (Alabama) Artillery.
King William (Virginia) Artillery.
Morris (Virginia) Artillery.
Orange (Virginia) Artillery.

*Cutshaw's Battalion.‡*

Maj. WILFRED E. CUTSHAW.
Maj. ROBERT M. STRIBLING.

Charlottesville (Virginia) Artillery.
Courtney (Virginia) Artillery.
Staunton (Virginia) Artillery.

*Nelson's Battalion.*

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM NELSON.
Maj. DAVID WATSON.

Amherst (Virginia) Artillery.
Fluvanna (Virginia) Artillery.
Milledge (Georgia) Artillery.

THIRD CORPS.

Col. R. L. WALKER.

*Cutts' (Georgia) Battalion.*

Lieut. Col. A. S. CUTTS.
Maj. JOHN LANE.

Irwin Artillery.
Patterson's battery.
Ross' battery.

*McIntosh's Battalion.*

Lieut. Col. DAVID G. MCINTOSH.
Maj. MARMADUKE JOHNSON.

Clutter's (Virginia) battery.
Danville (Virginia) Artillery.
Hardaway (Alabama) Artillery.
2d Rockbridge (Virginia) Artillery.

*Pegram's Battalion.*

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM J. PEGRAM.
Maj. JOSEPH MCGRAW.

Crenshaw (Virginia) Artillery.
Fredericksburg (Virginia) Artillery.
Letcher (Virginia) Artillery.
Pee Dee (South Carolina) Artillery.
Purcell (Virginia) Artillery.

*Poague's Battalion.*

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM T. POAGUE.
Maj. GEORGE WARD.

Albemarle (Virginia) Artillery.
Brooke (Virginia) Artillery.
Charlotte (North Carolina) Artillery.
Madison (Mississippi) Light Artillery.

* Composition given as reported January 31. On May 4 it is reported as consisting of the Alleghany Artillery, Lee Artillery, and Stafford Artillery.
† First Virginia Artillery.
‡ Formerly Jones' battalion.

*Richardson's Battalion.**

Maj. CHARLES RICHARDSON.
Maj. M. B. MILLER.

Donaldsonville (Louisiana) Artillery.
Huger (Virginia) Artillery.
Lewis (Virginia) Artillery.
Norfolk (Virginia) Light Artillery Blues.

CAVALRY CORPS.

*Horse Artillery.*

Lieut. Col. JAMES DEARING.
Maj. R. PRESTON CHEW.

Breathed's (Virginia) battery.
Hart's (South Carolina) battery.
McGregor's (Virginia) battery.
Shoemaker's (Virginia) battery.
Thomson's (Virginia) battery.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., March* 21, 1864.

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE, *Dublin Depot, Va.:*

I have information from various sources that Averell is preparing and intending another raid. You are probably more fully informed, and I give the information only from more abundant caution.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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UNION, MONROE COUNTY, VA., *March* 21, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

Your dispatch of this date received. I have some reports also of an advance from Kanawha Valley I have directed Colonel Jackson to look to railroad bridges over Jackson's and Cow Pasture Rivers. His force is small and ought to be supported when necessary by any available troops in Rockbridge or Augusta. While threatened from Kanawha Echols cannot leave the line of Greenbrier.

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

---

RICHMOND, *March* 21, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I had the honor to receive, on the 14th instant, yours of the 10th instant. Appreciating fully the great importance and extreme difficulty of supplying the Army with food and forage, I have spared no efforts to have them promptly transported from the far South, now our almost sole reliance. Great pressure has recently been brought to bear on the main trunk railways by the stoppage of passenger trains, express cars, &c., and a very large amount of corn and commissary stores have reached Richmond in the few days that have elapsed since I had the pleasure of seeing you here. Scarcely before during this war have so many public

* Formerly Garnett's battalion.

stores been moved within the same number of days by these roads. But, like "forced marches" in an emergency, these results cannot be kept up permanently. Our efforts will not be relaxed, however, and I hope for better things in future. I will add that I received the first notice of subsistence stores being at Goldsborough awaiting transportation after your letter reached me, and they have now all come forward.

I take leave, general, to quote from your letter as follows:

> I believe that our railroad transportation can be so managed as to bring all these supplies without delay, besides doing the other work required of them, and that all the difficulties can be overcome by attention, energy, and diligence on the part of the officer in charge of this transportation.

As this opinion differs from any I have received elsewhere, I would be truly pleased to have any suggestions which would tend to insure this result, and if there is an officer who can discharge the duties with satisfaction, and with a fair prospect of accomplishing what you think quite possible, I beg that you will not hesitate to indicate him, that the assignment may be made. I beg you to remember, general, that up to this time last year not a car-load of corn nor subsistence stores had been brought from points beyond Raleigh for your army. Now we are feeding the soldiers and horses of that army to a great extent from Georgia. If the supply of railroad transportation was even then found so deficient as to cause serious alarm to the Government, how can they now meet these immensely increased demands "without delay, besides doing the other work required of them?" Not a bar of railroad iron nor a single locomotive has been brought into the Confederacy during that time, nor has the call for transportation of troops, ordnance stores, &c., been such as to diminish the "other work required of them." I am willing to be stimulated to the discharge of my duty, general, and shall always be glad to know your wants and your views, but I beg you not to expect impossibilities. I admit that we have been able to accomplish so much now in the way of transportation and to sustain life with so much less in the way of food than we dreamed of three years since that my hopes are strong for the future. The arrivals at Richmond within the last week were such that your supplies for the present will only be limited by the capacity of the Central Railroad. One passenger train only each day is now permitted between Richmond and Augusta, Ga., and it is hoped that this arrangement will increase our supplies here.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

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PETERSBURG, VA., *March* 22, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

The following dispatch just received from Kinston, N. C.:

> I have information that I feel bound to rely upon that the enemy were re-enforced at Washington up to Saturday with fourteen regiments of infantry, five batteries, and 500 cavalry. Three more regiments expected on Monday. Burnside said to be in command. We ought to have men here or at Greenville.
>
> M. D. CORSE,
> *Brigadier-General.*

Whiting must send troops to me.

GEO. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

PETERSBURG, *March* 22, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

The following telegram just received from Weldon:

The following just received from Tarborough, from Capt. G. H. Brown, assistant quartermaster:

"General Burnside, with re-enforcements, reached Washington, N. C., on Saturday. General Harland also there. I have information direct that they will make an advance at an early day; this is reliable."

JNO. C. PEGRAM,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GEO. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *March* 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: To man efficiently and at once the vessels of the Navy it has become necessary to transfer 1,200 men from the armies. To this end the honorable Secretary of the Navy has detailed officers, with instructions to proceed to the headquarters of each army for the purpose of selecting and designating the men to be so transferred. From your command 50 men will be designated, whom you are requested to transfer to the Navy, upon the written request of the naval officer sent to your command, and under his direction to send them to Wilmington, N. C. You will please forward a list of the men so transferred to this office without delay.

By command of the Secretary of War:

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

(Copy sent to Secretary of the Navy.)

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RICHMOND, VA., *March* 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. ARNOLD ELZEY,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: To man efficiently and at once the vessels of the Navy it has become necessary to transfer 1,200 men from the armies. To this end the honorable Secretary of the Navy has detailed officers, with instructions to proceed to the headquarters of each army for the purpose of selecting and designating the men to be so transferred. From your command, including the brigades of Hunton and Barton, 100 men will be designated, whom you are requested to transfer to the Navy, upon the written request of the naval officer sent to your command, and under his direction to send them to Richmond. You will please forward a list of the men so transferred to this office without delay.

By command of the Secretary of War:

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

(Copy sent to Secretary of the Navy.)

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: To man efficiently and at once the vessels of the Navy it has become necessary to transfer 1,200 men from the armies. To this end the honorable Secretary of the Navy has detailed officers, with instructions to proceed to the headquarters of each army for the purpose of selecting and designating the men to be so transferred. From your command, not including Barton's and Hunton's brigades, 80 men will be designated, whom you are requested to transfer to the Navy, upon the written request of the naval officer sent to your command, and under his direction to send them to Halifax, N. C. You will please forward a list of the men so transferred to this office without delay.

By command of the Secretary of War:

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

(Copy sent to Secretary of the Navy.)

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HEADQUARTERS, *March* 23, 1864.

General JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Commanding Army of Western Virginia:*

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 14th instant, and am very glad to find that you are earnestly at work in fortifying the approaches to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad and the important points in your command. The farther these points are advanced the better, provided they cannot be turned and the garrisons cut off. The points named by you are well calculated for resistance to the enemy advancing on those roads, but I am not sufficiently acquainted with the country to judge whether they are best in a system of general defense for the concentration of troops for determined defense. This line, too, should be connected with that being fortified by General Imboden.

The enemy generally, in his advances in the country, threatens several sections and rapidly advances against one, and concentration of our troops can only be made on a retired line. The longer, however, he can be held on an advanced line the more certainly can concentration be made to oppose him in the retired positions. It was with this object that the line through Jennings' and Buffalo Gaps, &c., to Millborough was selected. General Early did not go much beyond the latter point, and merely indicated that the works should be continued to protect the important region westward. I hope the line you are fortifying will accomplish that object. In more than one instance Col. W. L. Jackson has been obliged to retire before the approach of the enemy east of the Warm Springs Mountain, and as he is now located in that region I thought it would be advantageous for him to construct the works, if practicable, intended to intercept the advance of the enemy after crossing the ridge. I do not know where the line dividing the departments is situated. The forces watching the approaches to each operate at a distance from this line, and on an advance of the enemy against either necessarily co-operate. I have therefore considered the line between them imaginary.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

WILMINGTON, *March* 23, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Have you received information deemed reliable from Pickett? Shall I re-enforce by railroad if called upon? Under present orders about transportation, can any troops come from south? Pickett telegraphs that Burnside is said to be at Washington. Please answer.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*March* 24, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Quartermaster-General.

Kemper's brigade was yesterday ordered from Wilmington back to Kinston. Your views are requested as to their transportation by railroad, as it is a case of emergency.

By command of Secretary of War:

JOHN W. RIELY,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

MARCH 24, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

A single brigade can be transported from Wilmington without serious interference if the railroad is allowed to run its own schedule.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

General [COOPER]:

I have telegraphed General Whiting the substance of the Quartermaster-General's remarks.

JOHN W. RIELY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *March* 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

Kemper's brigade, which you were yesterday directed to send back to Kinston, can move by railroad, allowing the authorities to run their own schedule.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

---

FAUQUIER, *March* 26, 1864.

Major-General STUART,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: I received a few moments ago Major McClellan's note with reference to the movements of the enemy along the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. I made a reconnaissance over there yesterday

with a few men. Heretofore they have had all their cavalry camped at Halltown. They had no picket-line covering the railroad until last Saturday, when they formed a chain of pickets extending all along the pike from near Charlestown to Smithfield, thence to a small village (Gorrettown [Ganotown?]), I think near North Mountain. This is evidently designed to cover some movement, though what it is I was unable to ascertain, as they have been very vigilant and rigid in preventing ingress and egress from their lines. I learned, however, that some engineers within the last few days made a survey of the Winchester and Potomac Railroad, and that they had already commenced laying the rail. The heavy cavalry detail required to picket closely such an extended front would indicate that it was but a temporary arrangement, as they have never done anything of the kind even when the valley was occupied by much larger force.

Milroy has again been placed in command at Harper's Ferry. The impression among citizens is that a movement up the valley is contemplated. I will send another scout over to-morrow. I would be glad if you would furnish me with $2,000 secret-service money, as with my present opportunities I could use greatly to the public advantage. In the event of getting it, I propose investing it in tobacco, and then converting it into greenbacks. This could be done without much loss in the difference of currency. Should you furnish it, my brother, William Mosby, the bearer, will take charge of it.

Please grant no papers to any man coming to join my command unless he can furnish evidence of having been recruited by an agent of mine. The enrolling officer in Richmond has assumed to enlist men for me, and I have had the trouble of sending them back. Please have the inclosed paper* returned to him. You can very readily understand how necessary it is for success in my operations to have none but first-rate men. If the swollen waters do not prevent, I propose an expedition into the valley to-morrow for the purpose of capturing some cavalry outposts. I had a good thing on them to-day, but my designs were frustrated by the escape of two prisoners. I shall endeavor to keep you posted with regard to operations in the rear. I have procured a fine electrician, who will be with me in a few days, which I am in hopes will add greatly to my facilities for procuring a knowledge of their movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. MOSBY,
*Lieutenant-Colonel.*

In the event of a forward movement either by our army or the enemy I would like to be informed.

---

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

GENERAL: In answer to the communications in reference to the movement of Pool's command to Wilmington, the Secretary of War directs me to say that applications from commands in one department addressed through the commander of another department cannot be entertained. Had the application been regularly and properly made,

*Not found.

however, there would not appear to be any reason for granting it, the force at Wilmington, compared with that at other points, being ample for the duties to be performed. It will be remembered that the Tenth North Carolina Battalion, replaced by Kemper's brigade, has been allowed to remain in the Cape Fear District.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

SAML. W. MELTON,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MARCH 27, 1864.

Colonel JACKSON, *Magnolia:*

A gun-boat sent a party into Bear Creek and carried off some 60 or 70 negroes. On the 25th Dickinson repulsed a party from Swansborough. He expects them to return. Can you increase his party at all?

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., March 28, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
*Orange Court-House, Va.:*

The operator at Fredericksburg reports:

Yankees opposite town; don't know in what force. They are in full view of town. Have made an attempt to cross.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

---

PETERSBURG, *March* 28, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

The following dispatches just received by signal line from Swineyards:

Gun-boats going down the river from Fort Powhatan.

E. R. WIN,
*Sergeant.*

5 P. M.

The gun-boats are shelling Fort Powhatan.

E. R. WIN,
*Sergeant.*

C. H. RHODES,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

PETERSBURG, *March* 28, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Three gun-boats are coming up the James River. They are now passing Lower Brandon—5.30 p. m.

In the absence of General Pickett:

N. W. SMALL,
*Captain, &c.*

HEADQUARTERS, *Kinston, N. C., March* 28, 1864.

Col. J. N. WHITFORD,
*Commanding Sixty-seventh North Carolina:*

COLONEL: Your communication of this date conveying the agreeable information of the capture of a flat from the enemy is at hand. General Corse requests me to ask you to congratulate the men engaged in the enterprise upon the happy accomplishment of their object and to return his thanks therefor. Such acts, while displaying gallantry, are calculated to annoy the enemy and protract their work, which is very desirable, and besides, inflict losses, which it should be our aim to do whenever it can be done. He will always be glad to hear of such affairs. Please keep us posted of any information you may receive, rumors as well.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. B. HOOE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Warm Springs, Va., March* 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN ECHOLS,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Scouts just in from Northwestern Virginia report ten regiments of the enemy at Clarksburg, and fortifying; three brigades in the Kanawha Valley, one company at Weston, four at Bulltown, and two regiments at Beverly, with artillery. I have not been able to ascertain the force at New Creek and other points. The enemy anticipate a movement on our part some time this spring, and many of our friends there send me word that another raid from Averell may be expected. My horses are not secure where I am feeding them hay; they will not be able for service until late in the spring, but I have no safe place to take them. Rockbridge and other counties seem to be in this department when the enemy advance, but entirely out side of it when forage and supplies are needed. Two weeks since a corps at least passed over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad from Tennessee to Meade. No other news. The enemy will not advance on this line during this bad weather.

I am, general, very respectfully,

WM. L. JACKSON,
*Colonel.*

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COLUMBIA, *March* 29, 1864.

General COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: I find most of the cavalry so badly equipped here that there will be some delay in moving them. A very large proportion of the saddles have been condemned, and Captain Calhoun, of Rutledge's regiment, goes on to Richmond with a requisition for that regiment. I am preparing to concentrate the troops near here, so that they can march as soon as they can be prepared for the journey. I hope to move all, or most of them, by the 15th April. An effort is made in Charleston to keep Rutledge's regiment here, though Colonel R. himself is very anxious to go on. I hope you will enforce the

order moving the troops embraced in the list given to me, as they are needed far more in Virginia than here. The order cutting down the companies to 80 men each has already been enforced, though it is clearly against law, which allows 125 men to each company. The three South Carolina regiments will carry on fewer men than you supposed, and this will make Butler's brigade small even at the commencement of the campaign, which will, of course, reduce it still further. I recommend that four regiments be put in this brigade, which can be done by adding the Holcombe Legion or the Hampton Legion to it. I should prefer the latter. General Butler goes with me to Charleston to-morrow, and he will leave in a few days for Richmond, where he will consult with you as to his command. I have arranged for forage as far as Charlotte, and I hope soon to hear that General Lawton has established depots along the line of march. Aiken's regiment has been relieved from duty by General Beauregard, and it is now getting ready to move. There is a company of light artillery in this State, commanded by Captain Earle, and he has applied to be transferred to my command in Virginia. This application was approved by General Lee, provided horses could be obtained for the battery. Captain Earle writes that there would be no difficulty in procuring them by impressment if orders to that effect were given. He now has 75 good horses, and I can furnish at once 5 more in Virginia. He would need only about 40 more, which I feel sure can readily be furnished from captured horses. So anxious is Captain Earle to get into active service that he has refused a commission as major, in the hope that his battery will be ordered to join me. I am very desirous of having a battery of South Carolina artillery with me, and I respectfully request that you will let me have Captain Earle's company to add to that of Captain Hart, now with me. I shall keep you advised of the movements of these troops, and I will write from Charleston if there is any necessity for me to do so.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*March* 30, 1864.

His Excellency J. DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: Since my former letter on the subject the indications that operations in Virginia will be vigorously prosecuted by the enemy are stronger than they then were. General Grant has returned from the army in the West. He is at present with the Army of the Potomac, which is being reorganized and recruited. From the reports of our scouts the impression prevails in that army that he will operate it in the coming campaign. Every train brings it recruits, and it is stated that every available regiment at the North is added to it. It is also reported that General Burnside is organizing a large army at Annapolis, and it seems probable that additional troops are being sent to the valley. It is stated that preparations are making to rebuild the railroad from Harper's Ferry to Winchester, which would indicate a reoccupation of the latter place. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is very closely guarded along its whole extent. No ingress or egress from their lines is permitted to

citizens, as heretofore, and everything shows secrecy and preparation. Their plans are not sufficiently developed to discover them, but I think we can assume that if General Grant is to direct operations on this frontier he will concentrate a large force on one or more lines, and prudence dictates that we should make such preparations as are in our power. If an aggressive movement can be made in the West it will disconcert their plans and oblige them to conform to ours. But if it cannot, Longstreet should be held in readiness to be thrown rapidly in the valley, if necessary, to counteract any movement in that quarter, in accomplishing which I could unite with him, or he unite with me, should circumstances require it, on the Rapidan. The time is also near at hand when I shall require all the troops belonging to this army. I have delayed calling for General Hoke, who, besides his own brigade, has two regiments of another of this army, under the expectation that the object of his visit to North Carolina may yet be accomplished. I have heard nothing on the subject recently, and if our papers are correct in their information, the enemy has thrown re-enforcements into that State, and the Neuse is barricaded just above New Berne. There is another brigade of this army, General R. D. Johnston's, at Hanover Junction. I should like as soon as possible to get them both back.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*March* 30, 1864.

Col. A. L. RIVES,
*In Charge of Engineer Bureau:*

COLONEL: It is necessary that the engineer corps of this army be reorganized and increased commensurate with the wants of the service. The engineer officers attached to the army have done well, but their numbers are inadequate to the duties. I desire Colonel Talcott, with the First Engineer Regiment, to join me early next month. In addition to this regiment, there will be six pioneer companies, under engineer officers, besides the officers attached to the staff of the army. This would make an appropriate command for a brigadier-general, who should be chief engineer of the army. I do not know whether there is authority for an officer of this grade holding that position, but I must beg for a suitable officer for the duty, with such rank as the law allows. Among the advantages of having a general officer as chief engineer is that he may exercise authority over the troops engaged in engineer constructions on which the whole army is at times employed. The only officers whom I know available for this duty who appear to me to be suitable are General M. L. Smith, Col. W. H. Stevens, and General G. W. Custis Lee. The first, I understand, is ordered on duty at the bureau, and his services there may be more necessary than in the field. The duties of the second I know are important where he is, and I have reason to believe that a transfer at this time would be embarrassing to him. The third also has peculiar duties which prevent my applying for him, but if he can be spared I should like very much to have him. Any good officer, bold, energetic, and intelligent, who can discharge the duties,

will be most acceptable to me. If he cannot he will be a hinderance. I request that you will see the Secretary of War on this subject at your earliest convenience, and ask his immediate consideration and action in this matter. General Grant is present with the Army of the Potomac. It is being reorganized and recruited; many additions are being daily made to it. The impression prevails that Grant will operate it. If so, he will concentrate a large force in Virginia on one or more lines, and we must put forth all our strength to oppose him. I shall want all the assistance I can get. There is no time to lose.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[First indorsement.]

APRIL 1, 1864.

The within has been submitted to me by Colonel Rives, and seems to require early attention. The engineer troops will be ordered and, with your approval, organized as recommended by General Lee. I venture to recommend that General Smith be ordered to General Lee's command, as suggested by him.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Second indorsement.]

Secretary of War's recommendation approved, and the necessary orders will be issued.

J. D.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*March* 30, 1864.

Maj. CHARLES S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: The lieutenant who was sent ten days ago in charge of a flag of truce, and to take a number of women and children through the lines, returned last night, after having gone within 2 miles of Beverly before coming to the pickets of the enemy. He reports at Beverly two regiments, the Twenty-eighth Ohio and Tenth Virginia, with four pieces of artillery and a few companies of cavalry. He got Northern papers of 23d instant, which state that Averell is very sick at Martinsburg, and not expected to recover. I will send you one of the papers if I can get one. The lieutenant represents a very great scarcity of forage on the route; nothing to be had anywhere along the line. I had four desertions from the Twenty-second Regiment night before last and one from the same regiment last night. Every effort will be made to capture them, but they are so perfectly acquainted with the country that it is very difficult to do. They were all, I believe, new men. We need one or two or more good examples in the way of punishment very badly.

I am, major, very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Henrico, Va., Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, C. S. Army, commanding, March 31, 1864; headquarters Richmond, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Absent, prisoners. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | Officers. | Men. |
| City Guard Forces | 24 | 536 | 535 | 631 | 901 | 7 | 59 |
| Camp Lee | 17 | 77 | 64 | 97 | 2,058 | ..... | ..... |
| C. S. military prisons, Danville, Va | 25 | 413 | 452 | 538 | 699 | 3 | 18 |
| Total *a* | 66 | 1,026 | 1,051 | 1,266 | 3,658 | 10 | 77 |

*a* Troops in the department same as those reported March 10, 1864.

*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey, C. S. Army, commanding, March 31, 1864; headquarters Richmond, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. | Prisoners. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | | Officers. | Men. |
| General staff | 9 | ..... | ..... | 9 | 11 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Richmond Defenses | 90 | 1,510 | 1,655 | 1,895 | 2,211 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Hunton's brigade | 131 | 1,941 | 1,920 | 2,416 | 3,575 | ..... | 32 | 249 |
| Chaffin's Bluff | 20 | 333 | 424 | 472 | 557 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Drewry's Bluff | 12 | 315 | 385 | 416 | 505 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 2d Maryland Infantry | 20 | 281 | 281 | 360 | 467 | ..... | 4 | 52 |
| Barton's brigade | 84 | 1,468 | 1,468 | 1,780 | 3,164 | ..... | 52 | 372 |
| Total | 357 | 5,848 | 6,133 | 7,339 | 10,479 | ..... | 88 | 673 |
| Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion Cavalry | 15 | 190 | 188 | 279 | 396 | ..... | 1 | 8 |
| 42d Virginia Battalion Cavalry | 17 | 208 | 205 | 295 | 667 | ..... | 2 | ..... |
| 1st Maryland Cavalry | 16 | 309 | 309 | 350 | 597 | ..... | 4 | 74 |
| Total | 48 | 707 | 702 | 924 | 1,660 | ..... | 7 | 82 |
| 2d Maryland Artillery | 3 | 63 | 63 | 79 | 103 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| Lightfoot's battalion | 9 | 290 | 315 | 343 | 389 | 14 | ..... | ..... |
| Stark's battalion | 8 | 199 | 196 | 226 | 257 | 8 | ..... | ..... |
| Cooper's battery | 4 | 91 | 91 | 105 | 124 | 4 | ..... | ..... |
| Total | 24 | 643 | 665 | 753 | 873 | 30 | 1 | 7 |
| Grand total | 438 | 7,198 | 7,500 | 9,025 | 13,023 | 30 | 96 | 762 |

*Organization of troops in the Department of Richmond, commanded by Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey, C. S. Army, March 31, 1864.*

HUNTON'S BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON.

Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion, Col. W. Pinkney Shingler.
8th Virginia, Capt. Henry C. Bowie.
19th Virginia, Capt. James G. Woodson.
28th Virginia, Capt. William L. Wingfield.
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.
56th Virginia, Capt. John Richardson.
42d Virginia Battalion Cavalry, Lieut. Col. W. T. Robins.

BARTON'S BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. SETH M. BARTON.

9th Virginia, Col. James J. Phillips.
14th Virginia, Col. William White.
38th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Joseph R. Cabell.
53d Virginia, Col. William R. Aylett.
57th Virginia, Maj. Clement R. Fontaine.

MARYLAND LINE.

Col. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON.

2d Maryland Infantry, Capt. James Parran Crane.
1st Maryland Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Ridgely Brown.
2d Maryland Artillery, Capt. William H. Griffin.
Cooper's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Raleigh L. Cooper.

ENGINEER TROOPS.

1st Engineer Regiment, Company D, Lieut. H. C. Derrick.

RICHMOND DEFENSES.

Col. WALTER H. STEVENS.

*First Division (Inner Line).*

Lieut. Col. JOHN W. ATKINSON.

10th Battalion Virginia Heavy Artillery, Maj. James O. Hensley.
19th Battalion Virginia Heavy Artillery, Maj. N. R. Cary.

*Second Division (Inner Line).*

Lieut. Col. JAMES HOWARD.

18th Battalion Virginia Heavy Artillery, Maj. Mark B. Hardin.
20th Battalion Virginia Heavy Artillery, Maj. James E. Robertson.

*Unattached.*

Louisiana Guard Artillery, Capt. Charles A. Green.

*Light Artillery Battalion.*

Lieut. Col. C. E. LIGHTFOOT.

Caroline (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas R. Thornton.
2d Nelson (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. J. Henry Rives.
Surry (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. James D. Hankins.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF.

*Heavy Artillery.**

Lieut. Col. J. M. MAURY.

Goochland (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Jonathan Talley.
Virginia Howitzer Company, Capt. John J. Young.
James City (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Lucien W. Richardson.
Lunenburg (Virginia) Rebel Artillery, Capt. C. Tacitus Allen.
Pamunkey (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Andrew J. Jones.

* Reported as infantry.

DREWRY'S BLUFF.

*Heavy Artillery.**

Maj. FRANCIS W. SMITH.

Johnston (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Branch J. Epes.
Neblett (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Wiley G. Coleman.
Southside (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. John W. Drewry.
United (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas Kevill.

CHAFFIN'S FARM.

*Light Artillery Battalion.*

Maj. A. W. STARK.

Mathews (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. A. D. Armistead.
McComas (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. David A. French.

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*Abstract from return of the Department of the Cape Fear, Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding, for the month of March, 1864; headquarters Wilmington, N. C.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Prisoners of war. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| General staff | 11 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 14 | 1 |
| Post of Wilmington | 12 | ..... | ..... | 12 | 12 | ..... |
| Martin's brigade | 138 | 2,643 | 2,774 | 3,110 | 4,002 | 4 |
| Engineer troops | 3 | 47 | 74 | 91 | 103 | ..... |
| Signal corps | 1 | 36 | 36 | 38 | 51 | ..... |
| Heavy artillery | 115 | 2,330 | 2,829 | 2,276 | 4,022 | ..... |
| Cavalry | 27 | 357 | 386 | 436 | 572 | ..... |
| Light artillery | 32 | 797 | 820 | 889 | 977 | 5 |
| Total | 339 | 6,212 | 6,921 | 7,865 | 9,75 | 10 |

*Organization of troops in the Department of the Cape Fear, commanded by Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, March 31, 1864.*

*Martin's Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JAMES G. MARTIN.

17th North Carolina, Col. William F. Martin.
42d North Carolina, Col. John E. Brown.
50th North Carolina, Col. George Wortham.
66th North Carolina, Col. Alexander D. Moore.

*Cavalry.*

7th Confederate (two companies).
3d North Carolina (one company).
5th North Carolina (one company).
5th South Carolina (two companies).

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* Reported as infantry.

*Heavy Artillery.*

Fort Caswell, Col. T. M. Jones.
Fort Fisher, Col. William Lamb.
Forts Holmes and Pender, Col. John J. Hedrick.
Wilmington, Col. George A. Cunningham.

*Light Artillery.*

3d North Carolina Battalion, Company A, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis.
3d North Carolina Battalion, Company B, Capt. William Badham, jr.
13th North Carolina Battalion, Battery D, Capt. Zachariah T. Adams.
Southerland's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Thomas J. Southerland.
Staunton Hill (Virginia) Battery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.
Webb's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Lewis H. Webb.
Young's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Edward R. Young.

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*Abstract from return of the Army and Department of Western Virginia, Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding, for the month of March, 1864; headquarters Dublin, Pulaski County, Va.**

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| General staff | 18 | .... | ..... | 18 | 18 | .... |
| Echols' brigade | 91 | 1,257 | 1,257 | 1,481 | 2,343 | ..... |
| McCausland's brigade | 81 | 1,388 | 1,388 | 1,624 | 2,226 | ..... |
| 45th Virginia | 36 | 571 | 571 | 674 | 954 | ..... |
| Hart's company engineer troops | 2 | 48 | 48 | 51 | 71 | ..... |
| Total infantry | 210 | 3,264 | 3,264 | 3,830 | 5,594 | ..... |
| W. L. Jackson's cavalry brigade | 78 | 623 | 623 | 778 | 1,617 | ..... |
| 14th Virginia Cavalry | 31 | 448 | 448 | 543 | 810 | ..... |
| 16th Virginia Cavalry | 23 | 181 | 181 | 210 | 750 | ..... |
| 17th Virginia Cavalry | 31 | 278 | 278 | 356 | 587 | ..... |
| 22d Virginia Cavalry | 22 | 263 | 263 | 322 | 747 | ..... |
| 37th Battalion Virginia Cavalry, Company H | 4 | 58 | 58 | 69 | 108 | ..... |
| Total cavalry | 189 | 1,851 | 1,851 | 2,278 | 4,619 | ..... |
| Chapman's (Virginia) battery | 3 | 104 | 104 | 119 | 158 | 6 |
| Bryan's (Virginia) battery | 3 | 129 | 129 | 141 | 157 | 6 |
| Burroughs' (Tennessee) battery | 2 | 37 | 37 | 40 | 86 | ..... |
| McClung's (Tennessee) battery | 3 | 42 | 42 | 47 | 58 | ..... |
| Lurty's (Virginia) battery | 4 | 62 | 62 | 66 | 95 | ..... |
| Botetourt (Virginia) Artillery | 5 | 104 | 104 | 116 | 152 | 6 |
| Jackson's (Virginia) Horse Artillery | 6 | 74 | 74 | 82 | 90 | ..... |
| Total artillery | 26 | 552 | 552 | 611 | 796 | 18 |
| Grand total | 443 | 5,667 | 5,667 | 6,737 | 11,027 | 18 |

* Maj. Gen. S. Jones and personal staff relieved from duty and Major-General Breckinridge and personal staff assigned to duty in this department by Special Orders, No. 46, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, and Lieutenant Schley assigned by Special Orders, No. 58, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series.

*Organization of troops in the Department of Western Virginia, commanded by Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, March 31, 1864.*

| ECHOLS' BRIGADE. | M'CAUSLAND'S BRIGADE. |
|---|---|
| Brig. Gen. JOHN ECHOLS. | Col. JOHN MCCAUSLAND. |
| 22d Virginia, Col. George S. Patton. | 36th Virginia, Maj. William E. Fife. |
| 23d Virginia Battalion, Maj. William Blessing. | 45th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Beckley. |
| 26th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. George M. Edgar. | 60th Virginia, Col. Beuhring H. Jones. |
| Virginia Partisan Rangers, Capt. Philip J. Thurmond. | Hart's Company Engineer Troops, Capt. William T. Hart. |
| Virginia Partisan Rangers, Capt. William D. Thurmond. | |

AT SALTVILLE.

45th Virginia, Col. William H. Browne.

| JENKINS' BRIGADE.* | JACKSON'S BRIGADE. |
|---|---|
| 14th Virginia Cavalry,† Col. James Cochran. | 19th Virginia Cavalry, Lieut. Col. William P. Thompson. |
| 16th Virginia Cavalry,‡ Lieut. Col. William L. Graham. | 20th Virginia Cavalry, Col. William W. Arnett. |
| 17th Virginia Cavalry,§ Col. William H. French. | 46th Virginia Battalion Cavalry. |

AT MARION.

22d Virginia Cavalry, Col. Henry S. Bowen.
37th Virginia Battalion Cavalry, Company H, Capt. William H. Payne.

ARTILLERY.

Botetourt (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Henry C. Douthat.
Bryan's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Thomas A. Bryan.
Rhett (Tennessee) Battery, Capt. William H. Burroughs.
Chapman's (Virginia) battery, Capt. George B. Chapman.
Jackson's (Virginia) Horse Artillery, Capt. Thomas E. Jackson.
Lurty's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Warren S. Lurty.
McClung's (Tennessee) battery, Capt. Hugh L. W. McClung.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., April 1, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
*Orange Court-House, Va.:*

I have information, believed to be reliable, sent from Maryland on the 26th ultimo, that troops had been passing for days from the west on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Enemy's pickets doubled and every effort made to prevent information. Numbers passing not stated even conjecturally.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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* Not collected.
† With Echols' brigade.
‡ At Tazewell Court-House.
§ With McCausland's brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 1, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: Your circular of March 23 with reference to partisan rangers has been received. The organizations of partisan rangers serving with this army are the Fourth and Fifth North Carolina Cavalry (Fifty-ninth and Sixty-third Regiments), now absent in North Carolina; Lieutenant-Colonel Mosby's battalion, serving in Fauquier; Captain Kincheloe's company, serving in Prince William; Captain McNeill's company and Major Gilmor's battalion and Major O'Ferrall's battalion, serving in the Valley Department. Of these, the Fourth and Fifth North Carolina Regiments have been serving as regular cavalry, and will come under act No. 19, published in General Orders, No. 29, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, being continued in their present organizations as regular cavalry. I am making an effort to have Colonel Mosby's battalion mustered into the regular service. If this cannot be done I recommend that this battalion be retained as partisans for the present. Lieutenant-Colonel Mosby has done excellent service, and from the reports of citizens and others I am inclined to believe that he is strict in discipline and a protection to the country in which he operates. Gilmor's battalion I have already recommended to be disbanded and the companies brought under section 2 of act No. 19. I renew the recommendation, and recommend the same course to be pursued with Kincheloe's company, O'Ferrall's battalion, and McNeill's company. Experience has convinced me that it is almost impossible, under the best officers even, to have discipline in these bands of partisan rangers, or to prevent them from becoming an injury instead of a benefit to the service, and even where this is accomplished the system gives license to many deserters and marauders, who assume to belong to these authorized companies and commit depredations on friend and foe alike. Another great objection to them is the bad effect upon the discipline of the army from the constant desire of the men to leave their commands and enjoy the great license allowed in these bands. With the single exception mentioned, I hope the order will be issued at once disbanding the companies and battalions serving in this department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General*

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*April* 18, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

O'Ferrall's battalion has been organized into a regiment. It ought not to be disbanded. The recommendation of General Lee as to Kincheloe's and McNeill's companies is submitted for favorable consideration. Gilmor's battalion is made up in fact of Virginians and Marylanders. He is represented to be a good officer and his men willing to come into general service. I think he should be ordered to the Maryland Line, the Virginians to be transferred to Virginia companies.

By order:

SAML. W. MELTON,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

APRIL 21, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Mosby's and McNeill's commands I prefer to have retained as partisan rangers. In respect to the others Major Melton's suggestions are approved.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

[Third indorsement.]

APRIL 26, 1864.

Colonel WITHERS:

Order Gilmor's battalion to be mustered into the cavalry service, and to repair to Camp Maryland, Staunton. Citizens of Virginia who are enlisted men of any company of this battalion may, if they desire it, be transferred to Virginia companies.*

MELTON.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, *April* 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have to-day received your letter of 28th instant, as I did some days ago yours of 24th instant. I have up to this time forwarded to you all the information which I have been able to obtain from the front, which you have no doubt received. I will endeavor in every way in my power to carry out your views and wishes, fully and cordially concurring in their propriety and importance. Immediately upon the receipt of your letter to-day I sent a dispatch to Colonel Jackson by special courier, informing him of your wishes in regard to taking up his horses. A few days after the publication of the order in regard to assembling the three cavalry regiments in Monroe, Brigadier-General Jenkins sent to Colonel Cochran, of the Fourteenth Regiment, an order to have his horses brought up, but authorizing him to suspend his action thereon for a few days if he thought proper. I have not therefore of course felt myself authorized to give any direction or order in the matter since. Although I think it now of the greatest importance to us that the men should be mounted as soon as possible, and the cavalry put on the most efficient footing possible, I have given some days ago orders to the four companies in my front in Greenbrier to have their horses brought together, most of them having been turned out for the last two months on account of the scarcity of forage. Very many of these men are, however, still without arms, which, however, I hope to remedy in three or four days, as I have a train on the road to the Narrows for arms, having sent it as soon as I possibly could.

I have for the last day or two been thinking a great deal as to what the movements of the enemy from the Kanawha Valley might probably be, and you must excuse me for indicating a plan which I would not be surprised if they would take. I take it that they now have near 4,000 mounted men in the valley and as many infantry. They might send a part of their infantry toward Princeton and a part of it here for the purpose of keeping McCausland and myself occupied, or they might send the whole of their infantry to Princeton and send down a force from Beverly through Pocahontas and Greenbrier

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*So ordered May 5, 1864.

to me here, and in either event Averell might come over Sewell Mountain, and then turn to the south and cross Greenbrier at Alderson's Ferry and ford, or he might come from Fayette Court-House very soon, constructing a large raft at Bowyer's Ferry, and then crossing Keeny's Knobs, coming to Greenbrier River at a fine ford (Haynes' Ford), at either of which fords he would be only 15 miles from Union. He could thus pass directly through the county of Monroe and make his way to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad at any point either in Roanoke or Montgomery, and he would be enabled to pass before either McCausland or I could reach him, because it could be so arranged that neither of us could know of his approach until he reached Greenbrier River, especially if a body of infantry was sent in front of him, a plan which he has before adopted. They know the location and strength of our different forces as well as we do; they know that there is a considerable force near the salt-works, and I suppose that they know that there is not much force at or near New River bridge, and it has been an earnest desire upon their part to destroy this bridge. I merely suggest this plan for your consideration, knowing that your knowledge of the country and judgment will enable you correctly to estimate the chances of its being taken or of its being successful if taken. I am more induced to call your attention to it because I had been thinking over it on yesterday, and this morning Colonel Patton, whose judgment is very good and also his knowledge of the country, came to my headquarters, and without any mention of it from me told me that he had come to the conclusion that this course would be taken. Excuse me for thus volunteering any suggestion on the subject.

Permit me to thank you for your kind expression of confidence in me. I assure you that my only desire is to do my duty faithfully to aid in the protection of the country and to deserve your confidence and good opinion. I have sometimes been afraid that you would think that I was too ready to complain of difficulties and not patient enough or self-reliant enough, but I trust that I shall do better in this regard. I know that one so far removed from headquarters or wise counselors, as I am here, is apt to think that he has rather more difficulties to overcome than any one else, but I assure you that this is not the case with me, but that I have fully appreciated and sympathized with you in the great responsibilities and embarrassments which you have to encounter in the administration of this department under the present circumstances. I am impressing constantly upon all of the officers of my command the necessity of the strictest economy, and your suggestion as to forage had some time since been anticipated. The animals which are not being used are on grass, and those that are being worked constantly have been for the last three weeks on half rations, barely enough to keep them up.

I am, general, most respectfully and truly, yours,

JOHN ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Orange Court-House, April 2*, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States, Richmond:*

MR. PRESIDENT: The weather of the past week has been unfavorable for observation of the enemy. The snow and swollen streams have prevented free movements of our scouts. One on North River,

19 miles from Romney, 26th March, reports that no troops had passed over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad since about the 15th, when three regiments moved as far west as Grafton. This conflicts with the information of a dispatch from the Secretary of War received last evening. Scouts in the valley confirm the reports of the Secretary of the extreme vigilance practiced on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which seems to be intended to conceal movements on that route. It is stated there is a double chain of pickets from the Blue Ridge to the North Mountain. The scouts north of the Rappahannock report almost daily arrival of re-enforcements to General Meade's army by railroad. They do not know whence they come, or whether they are returning convalescents, men from furlough, &c. On the 26th and 27th ultimo the trains were particularly full. A battery of artillery and 600 cavalry are stated to have marched through Centreville on the 26th for the Rappahannock. On the 30th and 31st large re-enforcements by railroad are also reported; also that a report was in circulation in Alexandria that four corps were to be added to the Army of the Potomac. The furloughed men of the Ninth Corps are ordered to repair to Annapolis, and General Longstreet reports that the Ninth Corps has left Knoxville and gone east via Cumberland Gap. This is corroborative of the statement of the assembling of Burnside's troops at Annapolis. General Couch is stated to be at Hagerstown with 5,000 or 6,000 new troops; number probably exaggerated. These various reports render it quite probable that Virginia may be the theater of Grant's campaign; that Burnside may operate from some point on the coast, and that a column may also be pushed up the Shenandoah Valley. Should this be the plan of the enemy I think troops will be drawn from their other armies, which should be watched with a view of discovering it. I would recommend that this army be strengthened as much as practicable; that should it be ascertained before commencement of operations by General Johnston that troops have been drawn from his front and sent to Virginia, that Longstreet's corps be ordered here, and that re-enforcements be sent to General Johnston from General Polk, Mobile, and Beauregard. General Johnston will then be relatively stonger in comparison with the force opposed to him than now, and supplies of all kinds should be accumulated at Richmond or at points convenient as fast as possible.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 78. } *Richmond, April 2*, 1864.

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VII. Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones will proceed to Charleston, S. C., and report to the commanding general of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, for assignment to replace Major-General Gilmer,* in command of the defenses of Savannah.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JOHN WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*Who was ordered to resume his duties as Chief of the Bureau of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 4, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the circular letter of the Department of the 31st ultimo, with reference to detailing men under the late act of Congress.

The law is vague in its terms, and it seems to me that to secure that degree of uniformity in its execution which is necessary to prevent dissatisfaction the decision of all applications should be left with the Department. If committed to the commanding generals there would be a diversity of views as to what constituted a good claim on grounds of justice, equity, and necessity, and discontent would ensue from an unequal enforcement of the law. All applications should be forwarded through the commanding officers, who will always be able to obtain information as to the facts stated by the applicant by inquiring in his company. Whatever course may be adopted, I fear the subject is one of great difficulty and open to great abuse. The utmost care and rigor on the part of the Department will hardly be sufficient to prevent it. I fully recognize the claims of those who have made extraordinary sacrifices for the country, but the difficulty appears to be how such claims are to be allowed in our present situation consistently with the overruling consideration of the public safety, to which every other must give way. If the necessities of a man's family are to constitute grounds for his exemption, grave objections present themselves. Cases of extreme hardship will doubtless be laid before the Department, as they have been before myself, but I do not think it sound policy to allow them to control my action. I will mention but one reason for this opinion, though others could be added.

It is impossible to equalize the burdens of this war; some must suffer more than others. The wants and destitution of soldiers' families are now provided for by the efforts of the States or by individual benevolence. The aggregate of relief afforded by these means is far greater than any system of details could furnish, unless the system should be extended so far as to impair our strength in the field very seriously. But if it be once known that a man has been exempted or detailed because his family is suffering, the consequence will be that those persons who are now contributing to aid soldiers' families will endeavor to assist them by getting details for the husbands, sons, or brothers on grounds of necessity, rather than continue a charity which, however creditable, is onerous, and perhaps less satisfactory to givers and receivers than the restoration of the absent members of the families would be. The same considerations would in the end reach those public efforts which are everywhere being made in behalf of the destitute and suffering. So far as individuals are concerned I know the truth of what I have said by experience. I have received applications for the furlough, and sometimes the detail, of a man to enable him to assist his family, signed by enough persons to do what the necessities of that family would have required had they turned their attention in that direction.

I think, therefore, that the adoption of a principle of granting details merely on account of the suffering of a man's family would be productive of injury by diminishing the aggregate of relief now afforded by public or individual benevolence, and thereby increas-

ing the necessity of such details. As they could not be extended to meet every case, dissatisfaction would ensue and more suffering in the aggregate than now exists.

So also with regard to details on the ground that a family has contributed a number of its members to the service. The difficulty of laying down an uniform rule that would do justice and at the same time not be injurious to the service is very great. The husband of a helpless family, or a man whose only son is in the ranks, has as strong a claim as he has [who] sent two of them or one of two sons. Yet it is plain that if the equal claims of all these persons be recognized our strength must be greatly impaired. If exceptions are made discontent must ensue. It seems to me that the necessities of our situation compel us to postpone these worthy claims to a more opportune time, and I respectfully suggest that they should only be regarded in those cases in which a detail is otherwise necessary. By selecting as the subjects of exemption and detail for service out of the army those persons whose situations entitle them to particular considerations it is possible to afford a measure of relief without such serious detriment to the service; but to grant exemptions and details merely on the ground of assisting a man's family, or because several members of it are or have been in the Army, will, I fear, be found to be attended with much difficulty and no little injury to the service.

I am confident that the discretion conferred by the law will be exercised with an eye single to the safety and good of the country, and have made these suggestions only as the result of my own experience and observation, with the hope that they may prove of use to you in the discharge of your delicate and onerous duties.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. R. CHAMBLISS, Jr.,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I wish you to bear in mind a few considerations for your government as the commander of the outposts on the lower Rappahannock. Keep out scouts who will be competent and certain of communicating to you any movement of a large body of infantry (which, of course, will be preceded by a large force of cavalry) down the Rappahannock on the north side, with the view to a change of base or extension of line to the Aquia Railroad. Endeavor to secure accurate information and telegraph it clearly, avoiding the possibility of ambiguity, for which telegrams are noted. It is very important also to state time and place of enemy's movement. Should the enemy endeavor to cross the river anywhere in your front, it is desirable to prevent it; it is possible to delay it, and to the accomplishment of these alternatives, preferably the former, devote every effort, and if needed send for Hart's battery, near Milford. Bear in mind that your telegrams may make the whole army strike tents, and night or day, rain or shine, take up the line of march. Endeavor, therefore, to secure accurate information. Should the enemy cross at Ely's or Germanna you should move at once to meet him, feel his force, endeavor to penetrate his designs, and report back by telegram, giving his progress, and watch his direction

of march, in doing which do not let a feigned movement deceive you. It is probable that a corresponding move will be made by a part or all of our main body, to connect your reconnaissance with which will be highly desirable. The enemy's main body will, in the event of such a move, either march directly for Fredericksburg or move up the turnpike or plank road toward Verdierville, as before. In the former case, endeavor to impede his march with artillery and dismounted men, so as to give us a chance to strike his flank. In the latter case, close up and harass his rear, as Rosser did so handsomely before. Above all, vigilance! vigilance! vigilance!

Very respectfully,

J. E. B. STUART,
*Major-General.*

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COLUMBIA, *April* 4, 1864.

General COOPER:

GENERAL: Last night I returned from Charleston, where I had gone to see General Beauregard as to the movement of the cavalry. As my last letter informed you, I wrote to General Beauregard on my arrival here, inclosing the order of His Excellency the President, and requesting that all the troops mentioned might be made ready to move. When General Beauregard returned from Florida I went down to consult when the troops could move, and in what order he wished to relieve them from duty. To this he replied, that if this cavalry was taken away the whole State between Charleston and Savannah would be left entirely open, but that they were under my orders, and I could take them at any time.

As this seemed to throw the whole responsibility of the withdrawal of these troops upon me, and made me in fact answerable for the picket-lines of General Beauregard, I declined to order the troops to move. I told General Beauregard that my instructions were to "take charge of the movement" of these troops, and that he must, of course, indicate what portion he could spare first. He then ordered Dunovant's regiment relieved, and that it should report to me. This regiment, like all the others, is badly equipped, and I fear it cannot get off from this point before the 15th instant. Colonel Dunovant is using every effort to expedite the movement. In order to free myself from the position in which I appeared to be placed, that of throwing open the State, I wrote the communication of which the inclosed is a copy, after sending a dispatch to you, saying that "Dunovant's regiment would move first. General Beauregard desires other regiments to remain till those from Virginia arrive. What are your orders?" No reply came to this; but after my letter of the 1st instant General Jordan informed me that under the order he had received from Richmond he thought these regiments should move at once, and that he would therefore direct them to rendezvous here immediately. I asked that they might do so by the 15th if possible, and he says that they shall. In the mean time I am endeavoring to obtain such equipments as are absolutely necessary for the troops, and I shall move the regiments on as fast as they can be made ready. I hope all difficulty as to the withdrawal of the troops is settled, and I trust that you will approve my action in the matter. There were other difficulties which met me in Charleston, not so important as the one just mentioned, but very vexatious. Orders have been issued for each captain to reduce his

company to 80 men, instructing the captains in carrying out the order to retain on their rolls a fair proportion of their dismounted, absent, or sick men, so that instead of all the companies taking with them effective men they will have a portion not fit for duty.

Again, there has been great abuse in the system of details and transfers. General Jordan claims the right to transfer men, not only without but against the consent of their commanding officers. Cases came under my observation where strong, able young soldiers, who desired easy places, were so transferred, one, indeed, transferred, not detailed, by Colonel Rhett, as his orderly. This is all done before the troops are ordered to report to me, so I can do nothing, but I hope that you will either remedy this evil or give me the power to do so. One captain informed me that 30 men (I think that was the number) were detailed from his company, and he was threatened with arrest by General Jordan for protesting against the transfer by Colonel Rhett of one of his men as orderly. If you will allow the captains to select the men to go with them to Virginia, and order all left behind to be sent at once to the conscript camp, an efficient body of men will be carried on, a great abuse will be broken up here, and the men who are now trying to shirk their duty will be punished. I particularly desire to reach these men, and I respectfully request from you orders that will enable me to effect this object. The Charleston Light Dragoons is a fine company, composed of gentlemen, and from this company very large details have been made. It will be hard to fill its ranks again with the same material, and I recommend that the captain be authorized to retain the maximum number in it. I think the law fixes this number at 125, and it would have been better to let all the companies that could do so take that number, as service in Virginia will soon reduce them. Amongst the troops to go on is a very fine squadron, commanded by Capt. William L. Trenholm, who has contributed greatly to its organization and equipment. The squadron was about to be merged into a regiment, of which Captain Trenholm was to have been colonel or lieutenant-colonel. From all the officers in Charleston qualified to judge I heard but one opinion expressed of Captain Trenholm, that he was an admirable officer, and I recommend his appointment as lieutenant-colonel, should he be assigned to the Holcombe Legion. My leave of absence expires on the 16th instant, and I shall leave here then, unless you deem my presence necessary to get the troops off. I hope all will be able to start by the 20th, and if you wish me to remain I beg you to send your order by telegraph. Owing to the deficiency of saddles, I shall have to send the horses in charge of detachments, making the rest of the men go by railroad, as you proposed. The men who have recently had furloughs will take on the horses, and the dismounted men, left to go by railroad, can then have ten days' furlough. I have established some depots of forage, and I hope to have them on the whole line.

Waiting further instructions, and claiming your indulgence for this long communication,

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

P. S.—As General Butler will have a brigade of new troops, I have requested the colonels of the First and Second South Carolina to let me have ten men from each regiment as scouts and guides. These men know the country, and they will be of great use to me. No objection will be raised by the colonels, and the men are very anxious

to go back with me. I do not care to have them mounted, as they can soon mount themselves in the lines of the enemy. I request that you will authorize this detail, with the consent of the colonels. The service of my old scouts is very important to me, and the number asked for will not impair the usefulness of the regiments here. Colonel Black has 730 men, and thinks he can mount all in twenty days. He has cheerfully given his consent to the detail, and I am sure Colonel Lipscomb will.

[First indorsement.]

Major MELTON:

Stop this interference of General Jordan with regard to transfers, and have the orders heretofore given carried strictly out in the name of the President. I am surprised to learn from this letter that General Hampton refers to the expiration of his leave. His leave has already expired by his assignment to this important duty, from which he cannot be separated until that duty is performed, when he will return to his former command. Let me have these papers after you have done with them, for submission to the President in the case of Colonel Jordan.

S. COOPER.

[Second indorsement.]

General COOPER:

A telegram has been sent to General H., as you direct. A letter to General Beauregard is inclosed, which please sign. It was prepared yesterday by me, and shown to the Secretary, who approved. If you desire it changed so as to read "By order of the President," I will do so. I am surprised at Hampton's recommendation of Trenholm. He has heretofore been very anxious for Haskell's promotion and does not know, probably, that this will conflict. The Legion is not in his command, however, and probably will not be.

MELTON.

[Inclosure.]

CHARLESTON, *April* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General JORDAN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: By Special Orders, No. 65, from War Department, I am charged with the prompt movement of the cavalry from this department to the Army of Northern Virginia. In accordance with these instructions to me, I have the honor to request that the general commanding will order the troops embraced in the order mentioned above to rendezvous at Columbia as soon as he can relieve them from duty in his department. The two companies of the Fifth Regiment now in North Carolina will be directed to move to Virginia by myself, as they have been ordered to report to me.

I am, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 5, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: All the information I received tends to show that the great effort of the enemy in this campaign will be made in Virginia. Nothing as yet has been discovered to develop their plan.

Re-enforcements are certainly daily arriving to the Army of the Potomac. I cannot ascertain whence they come. Information was received on the 3d from two scouts, derived from citizens along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, that the troops on the cars said they belonged to Grant's Army of the Tennessee. A resident of Culpeper stated that the Eleventh and Twelfth Army Corps had returned there. I telegraphed to Generals Johnston and Longstreet to know if they were still in the West. I inclose their answers. Both seem to think they are in their front, but preparing to leave. The tone of the Northern papers, as well as the impression prevailing in their armies, go to show that Grant with a large force is to move against Richmond. One of their correspondents at Harrisburg states, upon the occasion of the visit of Generals Burnside and Hancock, that it was certain that the former would go to North Carolina. They cannot collect the large force they mention for their operations against Richmond without reducing their other armies. This ought to be discovered and taken advantage of by our respective commanders. I infer from the information I receive that Longstreet's corps is in the vicinity of Abingdon and Bristol. It is therefore in position to be thrown west or east. Unless it is certain that it can be advantageously employed west for a speedy blow, I would recommend that it be returned to this army. The movements and reports of the enemy may be intended to mislead us, and should therefore be carefully observed. But all the information that reaches me goes to strengthen the belief that General Grant is preparing to move against Richmond.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

BRISTOL, *April* 4, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Orange Court-House, Va.:*

I doubt if there is a regular organization as the Eleventh Corps. Fragments of the Fourth, Seventh, Eleventh, and the Fourteenth and Twenty-third Corps were at Knoxville and vicinity eight days ago. There are reports of movements going on, but are not confirmed. Citizens report the enemy preparing to leave East Tennessee.

J. LONGSTREET,
*Lieutenant-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

DALTON, *April* 4, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Orange Court-House, Va.:*

Our scouts report Eleventh and Twelfth Corps opposite to us, but rumors that they are to go to Virginia. Some of their furloughed regiments are in the Northeast.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 5, 1864.

Hon. JAS. A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: The approach of active operations, and the importance of having all the companies and regiments of this army properly and speedily officered, induces me to make a few suggestions on the sub-

ject of examining boards. I know that the onerous duties of the Department prevent you from giving your personal attention to the merits of the various cases as they are forwarded, but I think that in many of them the power of acting can with great advantage be delegated to a discreet officer, and thus secure prompt action. There are five classes of cases presented in the reports of the examining boards:

First. Where the report of the board is favorable to the promotion of an officer entitled to the same by seniority or election.

Second. In which the report of the board is favorable to an officer whose competency for his present position has been questioned.

Third. Where the board reports unfavorably to the promotion of an officer entitled otherwise to be promoted by seniority or election.

Fourth. In which an officer is found unfit for his present position through physical disability, and it is recommended that he be honorably retired from the service.

Fifth. When the board finds the officer incompetent for his present position or careless and inattentive in the discharge of his duties, and it is recommended that he be dropped.

Though all the boards are now usually appointed under the act No. 26, General Orders, No. 93, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, series of 1862, in order to give greater authority to their proceedings and formality to the records, I think it is clear that the Department has the power to act in all these classes of cases except the two last, and the power, I think, might be delegated with advantage to the officer specially assigned to this duty.

The cases presented in the fourth and fifth classes must, it seems, under the law, if you approve the finding of the board, be laid before the President; but those of the fourth class are nearly all provided for by the act establishing an invalid corps, and those of the fifth class are not sufficient in number to accumulate to any great extent. If some method could with propriety be adopted to facilitate the examination of these reports, and secure prompt action upon them, it would contribute much to the discipline of the army.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 27. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *April 5*, 1864.

I. The army will be immediately placed in condition to march, and rations and forage for seven days will be kept on hand. All sick men who cannot advantageously [be] kept in the field will be sent back to hospitals, and all visitors to the army will retire from the lines. Officers will habitually encamp with their commands, and the occupation of houses is prohibited.

The transportation and camp equipage will conform to the following schedule, and should circumstances require a further reduction during the campaign it will be made pro rata for officers and men:

Army headquarters, one 4-horse wagon.

Inspector-general and assistants, one 4-horse wagon.

Chief quartermaster and commissary of subsistence and their assistants, one 4-horse wagon.

Chief of ordnance and assistants, one 4-horse wagon.

Chief engineer and assistants, one 4-horse wagon.
Medical director and assistants, one 4-horse wagon.
II. Corps headquarters, two 4-horse wagons and one 6-horse wagon.
Division headquarters, two 4-horse wagons and one 6-horse wagon.
Brigade headquarters, one 4-horse wagon.
Military court, one 4-horse wagon.

The transportation for corps, division, and brigade headquarters includes the personal staff, engineer, signal corps, and medical officers, and other officers of the general staff, except those hereinafter mentioned.

Chief quartermaster and chief commissary of subsistence of corps and assistants, one 4-horse wagon.

Chief quartermaster and chief commissary of subsistence of division and assistants, one 4-horse wagon.

Chief quartermaster and chief commissary of subsistence of brigade and assistants, one 4-horse wagon.

Regimental headquarters, including staff, surgeon, quartermaster, and commissary of subsistence, one 4-horse wagon.

Company officers of regiments, one 4-horse wagon.

Corps headquarters, for forage for animals, two 4-horse wagons.

Division headquarters, for forage for animals, two 4-horse wagons.

Brigade headquarters, for forage for animals, three 4-horse wagons.

Corps provost guard, one 4-horse wagon.

Pioneer party and provost guard of division, one 4-horse wagon.

Each regiment, not exceeding 500 men actually present, for cooking utensils, one 4-horse wagon.

Each division, for medical supplies, one 4-horse wagon.

Each brigade, for medical supplies, one 4-horse wagon.

To every 375 men, for ordnance supplies in brigade train, one 4-horse wagon.

To the same, for ordnance supplies in division train, one 4-horse wagon.

III. Headquarters chief of artillery of the army, including personal staff, quartermaster, commissary, medical officers, and other officers of general staff, one 4-horse wagon.

Headquarters each artillery battalion, including quartermaster and surgeon, one 4-horse wagon.

Each artillery battalion, for medical supplies, one 2-horse wagon.

Company officers, each artillery battalion, one 4-horse wagon.

To every 500 men actually present, for cooking utensils, one 4-horse wagon.

Each battery of artillery, for forage and commissary supplies, two 4-horse wagons.

The general supply trains and transportation for blacksmiths' tools, &c., are not affected by this order.

Necessary transportation for officers not attached to any headquarters and forage wagons for detached trains will be assigned by the chief quartermaster of the army.

IV. The transportation will be the same for cavalry as for infantry, with the following exceptions, viz: For every 200 horses in each brigade, for forage, one 2-horse wagon.

Each squadron, for transportation of shoeing tools, 1 pack-mule.
Each regiment, for transportation of ammunition, 1 pack-mule.

V. Not more than 1,800 pounds shall be taken in any wagon except in cases where the distance is short and the load constantly decreasing, and no trunks will be allowed to be carried.

No unauthorized vehicles will be permitted to accompany the army.

VI. Baggage: Each general officer shall be allowed 60 pounds personal baggage. Each field officer shall be allowed 50 pounds personal baggage. All other officers shall be allowed 30 pounds personal baggage. The men will carry their baggage on their persons. Arrangements will be made by commanding officers for the disposal and security of all surplus baggage of officers and men, which may be sent to Maj. W. T. Brintley, quartermaster, for safe keeping.

Tents: There shall be allowed to army headquarters two wall-tents and flies.

Inspector-general and assistants, one wall-tent and fly.

Chief quartermaster and chief commissary of subsistence, one wall-tent and fly.

Chief of ordnance and assistants, one wall-tent and fly.

Chief engineer and assistants, one wall-tent and fly.

Medical director and assistants, one wall-tent and fly.

Lieutenant-general and staff, two wall-tents and flies.

Major-general and staff, two wall-tents and flies.

Brigadier-general and staff, one wall-tent and fly.

Regimental commander, one wall-tent and fly.

Military court of each corps, one wall-tent and fly.

Corps quartermaster and commissary of subsistence, one wall-tent and fly.

Division quartermaster and commissary of subsistence, one wall-tent and fly.

Brigade quartermaster and commissary of subsistence, one wall-tent and fly.

Chief of artillery of army and staff, one wall-tent and fly.

Chief of artillery of corps and staff, one wall-tent and fly.

Commander of battalion of artillery, one wall-tent and fly.

Shelter-tents will be issued to the troops as far as practicable.

The chief quartermaster of the army is charged with the execution of this order.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 80. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, April 5, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

V. Lieut. Col. James Dearing, artillery, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed without delay to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, for assignment to duty with horse artillery of that army.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

APRIL 6, 1864.

General STUART:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I am much obliged to you for the fine watermelon. I tried to tempt General Long to stay to eat it, but he would not. Can't you come over and dine with us?

I will embody your remarks, or rather admonition, to our prisoners in a general order. You know I clip my words very much, and it need not interfere with your promulgating to the cavalry your views. I received from Richmond last evening information concerning enemy's movements, &c., exaggerated, I think, but to the general effect of what we know. Grant, it is said, has been to Fort Monroe. You can see them when you come over.

Truly,

R. E. LEE.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 81. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, April 6*, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXI. Maj. Gen. M. L. Smith will proceed without delay to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, for assignment to engineer service.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April 7*, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Commanding Armies of Confederate States:*

GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 4th instant, inclosing a note from the honorable Secretary of War, with the accompanying memoranda, &c. I think it apparent that the enemy is making large preparations for the approaching campaign in Virginia. The extent or whence the troops are derived are not so evident. The report of "Potomac," of 1st April, to Major Norris of 60,000 troops marching from Washington to Point Lookout I suppose intended for wit. There are rumors from citizens of troops from the West joining General Meade, but none of my scouts have seen them. I therefore think it doubtful.

A self-elected scout in the valley reports Thomas' corps having passed over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to Baltimore, and citizens in Culpeper and Fauquier report the arrival of the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps on the Rappahannock. These reports are not confirmed. General Longstreet has reported the departure from his front of the Ninth and Twenty-third Corps (Burnside's and Hartsuff's). Reports from two scouts north of the Rappahannock, received last night, state that great activity prevails on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. Troops are constantly passing up from Alexandria. They think they are recruits and furloughed men. Their clothes are too new and overcoats of too deep a blue for old troops. They estimate that from 20,000 to 25,000 men have been conveyed on the railroad to the Rappahannock in the last ten days.

The artillery that they have seen appears larger than ordinary. These men have been on opposite sides of the railroad, with no communication with each other. All quiet on the Potomac and at Aquia.

I think every preparation should be made to meet the approaching storm, which will apparently burst on Virginia, and unless its force can be diverted by an attack in the West, that troops should be collected to oppose it. I desire Hoke's and R. D. Johnston's brigades to be returned to me from North Carolina and Hanover Junction, and all the recruits that can be obtained. Supplies of all kinds should be collected in Richmond or at points accessible to this army as rapidly as possible. With our present supplies on hand the interruption of the trains on the southern roads would cause the abandonment of Virginia.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 7, 1864.

General G. W. C. LEE,
*Aide-de-Camp:*

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 1st instant, accompanying copy of communication from Mr. W. Newton to His Excellency the President. I think the best thing we can do is to destroy the boats in the Saint Mary's River. That will dispose of the question. I am confident that Colonel Wood, if he can procure the means, can accomplish it. I have sent down to procure accurate information about them, if possible. Colonel Wood might do the same. I can furnish volunteers from the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, who are acquainted with the shores of the Potomac, and who are now on the lower Rappahannock. Captain Fitzhugh, of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, the officer who destroyed the enemy's steamers in Cherrystone Creek, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, I have no doubt could join him with some of his men.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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[APRIL 7, 1864.—For Cooper to Longstreet, ordering latter to rejoin Army of Northern Virginia, with his troops, see Vol. XXXII, Part III, p. 576.]

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CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 7, 1864.

I hope that few of the soldiers of this army will find it necessary at any time in the coming campaign to surrender themselves prisoners of war. We cannot spare brave men to fill Federal prisons. Should, however, any be so unfortunate as to fall, through unavoidable necessity, into the hands of the enemy, it is important that they should preserve entire silence with regard to everything connected with the army, the positions, movements, organizations, or probable strength of any portion of it. I wish the commanding officers of regiments and companies to instruct their men, should they be captured, under

any circumstances not to disclose the brigade, division, or corps to which they belong, but to give simply their names, company, and regiment, and not to speak of military matters even among their associates in misfortune. Proper prudence on the part of all will be of great assistance in preserving that secrecy so essential to success.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTY., ARMY OF NORTHERN VA.,
No. 13. } *April 7*, 1864.

The artillery of the Second Corps will hereafter be organized into two divisions, as follows: The First Division, consisting of Nelson's, Hardaway's, and Braxton's battalions, will be under the command of Col. J. T. Brown, and the Second Division, consisting of Cutshaw's and Page's battalions (lately Carter's), will be under the command of Col. T. H. Carter.

In the absence of either Colonel Brown or Colonel Carter, their respective battalion commanders will report directly to the officer then commanding the artillery of the Second Corps.

By order of Brigadier-General Long:

S. V. SOUTHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 8, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: I received yesterday reports from two of our most reliable scouts, upon whom I have depended for information. One was dated the 4th and the other the 6th. The writer of the former had been near Alexandria, had communication with persons inside the town every day, and had watched the Alexandria and Orange Railroad four or five days. He states that a large number of recruits are being sent to the Army of the Potomac, and expressed surprise at the number of troops conveyed on the road, but that no additional corps had yet passed up. The general impression was that the great battle would take place on the Rapidan and that the Federal army would advance as soon as the weather is settled. All the white troops had been taken from the intrenchments around Alexandria and ordered to General Meade, and their places supplied by negroes. It was reported that the troops from Charleston were to be brought to Fort Monroe. The writer of the latter was in Culpeper in communication with the C. H., watching the enemy's movements. Among the reports in circulation was that the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps were expected. That may be, however, to encourage their men, who were deserting in expectation of a fight. I think General Beauregard had better be notified of the transfer of the troops from Charleston to Fort Monroe, which I think very probable, and that all available re-enforcements be sent to this army.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., April 8, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT,
*Commanding, Petersburg, Va.:*

GENERAL: It has become a matter of strict military necessity that six miles of iron should be at once taken and removed from the Charlotte and Statesville Railroad, in North Carolina, for the completion of the Piedmont Railroad, which will be ready for its track as soon as the iron can arrive. I have sent from here a detachment of engineer troops to remove the iron, and have ordered the officer in charge to report by letter to you. I must ask you to sustain this action with your authority, as commander of the department, on the ground of positive necessity, and it might be well for you to send a discreet officer to the point to direct operations and meet any contingency of possible opposition. I rely upon your prompt attention to this.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April 9, 1864.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: I received this evening a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Mosby, dated Loudoun, 8th instant, who had been directed to cause the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Alexandria and Orange Railroad to be closely watched. He states that a gentleman from Shepherdstown had informed him that the Eleventh Corps passed east over the former road last week, and that another, living near Fairfax Station, whom he considered reliable, reported that no re-enforcements had come up the latter road, but that every night this week large numbers of troops with artillery had passed down to Alexandria. I do not think the report of the gentleman from near Fairfax Station is worthy of as much credence as that of the scout which I sent you yesterday. That additions have been made to General Meade's army is shown by an increase of tents. Another scout from Culpeper to-day says that the troops on disembarking from the cars separate into squads and move off to the different camps, and do not march in a body, showing that they belong to many organizations. He also states that the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps are expected, and that it is rumored have already arrived in Alexandria. These may be the troops which are said to have come east on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, or they may belong to the Ninth Corps, which is assembling at Annapolis. Troops may also have been sent to Alexandria during the nights of this week, as the report from the scout I sent you yesterday was dated Monday. I see it stated in the Washington Chronicle, of the 4th instant, that over 30,000 troops are in the vicinity of Annapolis, and that General W. F. Smith has been ordered to the command of the troops around Fortress Monroe. The former is no doubt an exaggeration. The latter, if true, would indicate that operations are contemplated from that quarter, which they did not wish to trust to General Butler.

We have to sift a variety of reports before reaching the truth, and that you may compare the foregoing statements with such as may be derived from other sources is the object of this letter.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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*Abstract from report of companies of artillery, Third Corps, Col. R. L. Walker commanding, for April 9, 1864; headquarters Camp Taylor.**

| Batteries. | Present for duty. | | | Aggregate present and absent. | Serviceable horses. | Guns. | | | | | In hands of enemy. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | Aggregate. | | | Napoleons. | 3-inch rifles. | 10-pounder Parrotts. | 20-pounder Parrotts. | 24-pounder howitzers. | Officers. | Men. |
| G. M. Patterson's† | 3 | 130 | 148 | 175 | 50 | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| H. M. Ross'† | 4 | 132 | 148 | 166 | 75 | 2 | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| J. T. Wingfield's† | 4 | 127 | 149 | 164 | 63 | ..... | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | 7 |
| William K. Donald's‡ | 3 | 72 | 81 | 110 | 33 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| William B. Hurt's‡ | 2 | 94 | 111 | 152 | 34 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| M. Johnson's [Clutter's]‡ | 2 | 89 | 103 | 129 | 56 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| R. S. Rice's‡ | 2 | 107 | 124 | 156 | 52 | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| T. A. Brander's§ | 2 | 66 | 86 | 132 | 26 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Thomas Ellett's§ | 2 | 65 | 80 | 127 | 18 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Joseph McGraw's [Cayce's]§ | 2 | 85 | 106 | 155 | 32 | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 13 |
| E. A. Marye's§ | 2 | 84 | 93 | 139 | 27 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| W. E. Zimmerman's§ | 2 | 66 | 80 | 96 | 25 | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| A. W. Utterback's‖ | 4 | 47 | 60 | 82 | 35 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 |
| George Ward's [Richards']‖ | 3 | 82 | 94 | 127 | 59 | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 |
| A. B. Williams'‖ | 4 | 93 | 110 | 147 | 60 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 |
| J. W. Wyatt's‖ | 2 | 83 | 97 | 134 | 36 | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| C. R. Grandy's¶ | 3 | 88 | 110 | 137 | 28 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 |
| V. Maurin's¶ | 3 | 87 | 99 | 145 | 37 | 3 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5 |
| J. D. Moore's¶ | 3 | 76 | 92 | 136 | 24 | ..... | ..... | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 |
| N. Penick's¶ | 3 | 72 | 92 | 114 | 26 | 1 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 3 |
| H. R. Garden's** | 4 | 57 | 67 | 98 | 53 | 3 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| J. N. Lamkin's** | 2 | 107 | 115 | 128 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| J. R. Potts'** | 4 | 100 | 114 | 157 | 54 | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| J. A. Ramsay's** | 3 | 127 | 136 | 182 | 78 | 2 | 1 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*April 9*, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I received your communication of the 4th instant, inclosing a letter from a deserter in Floyd County to a soldier in your command, and am fully impressed with the importance of the views expressed. I regret that I cannot immediately carry out your wishes in regard to this matter. The great scarcity of forage has compelled the dismounting of nearly all of the cavalry of this department and the horses are some distance to the south of this place. I have, indeed, no mounted men, except the few in my front, whose places

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* Original signed by Col. R. L. Walker and Assistant Adjutant-General Richard Walke.

† Cutts' battalion.
‡ McIntosh's battalion.
§ Pegram's battalion.
‖ Poague's battalion.
¶ Richardson's battalion.
** Haskell's battalion.

cannot now be supplied, and they are, in addition, too far from the locality described to be sent after these deserters. I shall, however, have some of my cavalry force available for this purpose by the 1st of May, and will then do all in my power to break up and arrest this party. Should you deem earlier action more advisable, I would suggest that you order a good company from General Rosser's command, which I understand is in Rockbridge, to report to me, and I think I can devise a plan for the suppression of this band of tories and deserters. Infantry could not, I think, secure their arrest.

Very respectfully,

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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UNION, *April* 9, 1864.
(Received Dublin, 10th.)

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE:

My command is entirely out of breadstuffs. Nothing at the Narrows; nothing at Jackson's River. I have sent to mill this evening corn taken from the quartermaster, but there is only enough of this for two days' rations. What am I to do? Nothing can be had in this country. My troops must suffer, and I dread the consequences. I wish that you would order Captain De L'Isle at once to send by his wagons what can be procured. I will put the men to-morrow on half rations to make the corn hold out as long as possible. Answer by telegraph at once where I must send my train, which has come in without supplies. It takes eight days to make the trip to the Narrows and back, and seven days to Jackson's River. Answer to-night.

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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PETERSBURG, *April* 10, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

The following received from General Ransom, at Weldon:

Same news from Suffolk reports a large force between Suffolk and Portsmouth; that the same troops are now at Bernard's Mills and Savage's farm that have been there all the time. A new regiment has reached Washington, and the enemy are very busy trying to obstruct the Roanoke.

M. W. RANSOM,
*Brigadier-General.*

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General.*

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APRIL 10, 1864.

General CORSE, *Kinston:*

Information from New Berne, April 6, states that more troops are there now than at any time since war; still re-enforcing. Expect to move on Kinston in a few days. Practicing with artillery going on constantly.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

APRIL 10, 1864.

General PICKETT, *Petersburg:*

Additional information from New Berne to that sent to General Corse about enemy's force and movement on Kinston states that on 6th Burnside was not at New Berne, but daily expected. He is to take charge of movement. Order spies and scouts to watch if fleet of boats goes through canal to Albemarle.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

(Copy to General Cooper, Richmond.)

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*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, April 10, 1864; headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | |
| Staff | 17 | ..... | 17 | 20 |
| Early's division *a* | 383 | 4,185 | 5,529 | 8,997 |
| Johnson's division | 544 | 4,849 | 6,294 | 10,440 |
| Rodes' division *b* | 549 | 6,603 | 8,726 | 13,395 |
| Total | 1,493 | 15,637 | 20,566 | 32,852 |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | |
| Staff | 15 | ..... | 15 | 16 |
| Anderson's division | 534 | 6,381 | 7,809 | 12,003 |
| Heth's division | 495 | 6,507 | 7,951 | 13,663 |
| Wilcox's division | 552 | 7,311 | 8,946 | 12,672 |
| Total | 1,596 | 20,199 | 24,721 | 38,354 |
| Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: | | | | |
| Staff | 13 | ..... | 13 | 15 |
| Hampton's division | 200 | 2,667 | 3,357 | 8,051 |
| Fitzhugh Lee's division | 304 | 4,796 | 5,599 | 8,825 |
| Total | 517 | 7,463 | 8,969 | 16,891 |
| Artillery, Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 22 | 397 | 463 | 588 |
| Second Army Corps | 86 | 1,523 | 1,904 | 2,644 |
| Third Army Corps | 105 | 2,167 | 2,568 | 3,364 |
| Cavalry Corps | 21 | 399 | 467 | 645 |
| Total | 234 | 4,486 | 5,402 | 7,241 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | |
| Valley District *c* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Maryland Line | 47 | 737 | 887 | 1,287 |
| Provost guard | 22 | 286 | 387 | 588 |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 12 | 223 | 274 | 351 |
| Total | 81 | 1,246 | 1,548 | 2,226 |
| Grand total | 3,921 | 49,031 | 61,206 | 97,564 |

*a* Hoke's brigade detached; not reported.
*b* Two regiments detached; not reported.
*c* Not reported.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 11, 1864.

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: Present indications render it more than probable that on the opening of the campaign by the enemy a combined effort will be made for the capture of Richmond, and that the great struggle will take place in Virginia. Troops are apparently concentrating on the Rappahannock and the waters of the Chesapeake. There is but little doubt that the Ninth Corps, to which other troops are added, is now in the vicinity of Annapolis, under General Burnside. The Eleventh and Twelfth Corps have been consolidated into the Twentieth, under General Hooker, and is reported to have been ordered to General Meade. It is rumored that a part of the troops at least have reached Alexandria. All the white troops that can be spared have been ordered from the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the intrenchments around Alexandria, and brought up to the Rappahannock, their places being supplied by blacks. Other re-enforcements have been made to the Army of the Potomac, and I think it probable that at the proper time the siege of Charleston will be suspended and certain troops and iron-clad steamers transferred to the James River. I see it stated in the Northern papers that General W. F. Smith has been ordered to the command of the troops in the vicinity of Fortress Monroe, and that General Gillmore has been assigned a part in the projected operations. To carry out this plan points in other parts of the country must be weakened, of which we must take advantage. Longstreet has reported that the Ninth and Twenty-third Corps had left Knoxville, marching via Cumberland Gap. I do not know the present strength of the enemy in East Tennessee, but should it not exceed the combined forces of yourself and General Buckner important advantages might be obtained there. Again, should he have drawn a portion of his forces from Northwestern Virginia, or exposed any part of the long line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, a combination with General Imboden might enable you to strike a serious blow in that direction, interrupt his communications, and draw off some of his troops from the main attack. I have thought it well to call your attention to these points, as in the multitude of matters claiming your consideration in your new command they might escape you. If you can, by the commencement of active operations by the enemy, have completed the defenses guarding the main approaches of your line, and organized the local troops as garrisons, you will be able to employ your active forces where they can be most advantageously used in thwarting his general plans. When his main movement takes place we must be prepared for feigned attacks on many points, and not be misled by them. I will write to General Imboden to communicate to you anything of importance occurring on his line.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. D. IMBODEN, *Comdg. Valley District:*

GENERAL: Present appearances indicate that the enemy is concentrating troops on the Rappahannock and the waters of the Chesa-

peake for a combined movement against Richmond. To do this he must diminish his forces at other points. In addition to the information contained in your dispatch of yesterday, I learn that troops have been withdrawn from the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and that blacks have been substituted for whites in the intrenchments around Alexandria. Should you be able to complete the field-works on which you are engaged by the opening of the campaign, and to organize the local troops for their defense, it will enable you to strike at any vulnerable point with your active force you may discover in the enemy's line. I also desire you to be prepared, should opportunity offer, upon the advance of the Army of the Potomac to the Rapidan, to cross the Blue Ridge with your available force, leaving your pickets with a proper reserve in position to operate on the enemy's flank and rear, unless at that time you can get possession of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, arrest the travel, and thus detach troops from his main army. I wish you to keep General Breckinridge advised of any movement that may be made against you, or any that you think you can advantageously make against the enemy, in order that, if possible, he may co-operate with you. We must be prepared for feints by the enemy when he is about to make his general advance, and not be deceived by them, but repulse them boldly. I have informed General Breckinridge that you will communicate to him anything received of importance.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 11, 1864.

General G. E. PICKETT:

GENERAL: I received this evening your letter of the 9th, by your courier. Your plan for operations in North Carolina is good, and if you can carry it into execution at once I think must succeed. I have delayed recalling Hoke until the last moment, with a view to his assisting in the accomplishment of these operations. As the time of the completion of the gun-boats is still uncertain, could not the place of his brigade at the proper time be supplied by one from Wilmington or Charleston, and let him join me at once? He should send off his men by detachments, so as not to interrupt transportation of supplies by railroad, which will require several days for the journey. As far as I can judge, the Army of the Potomac will advance as soon as the roads will permit, and I shall require all the re-enforcements I can get. I therefore request you to forward Hoke's command to me as soon as you can. General Kilpatrick is in Culpeper. My inquiry was caused by a report from one of the scouts, who stated he had not returned with his troops. I had seen the statement of his arrival at Willard's, but did not know whether it was true. Maj. Gen. P. H. Sheridan is assigned to the command of the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac. The Eleventh and Twelfth Corps have been consolidated into the Twentieth, under General Hooker. I am obliged to you for information of troops on the Peninsula. Scouts on the Potomac report that on the 9th ten steamers with troops, estimated at two brigades, passed up the river. They did not state whether they were river or sea steamers. I conjecture the former, as they always particularize the latter. This

does not look as if they were concentrating on the Peninsula. If they are providing launches I should think they were intended for the James River. The defenses at Petersburg should be strengthened immediately to their fullest extent.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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DALTON, *April* 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Orange Court-House, Va.:*

Chattanoga papers report Eleventh and Twelfth Corps united, called Twentieth, and still there.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

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UNION, *April* 11, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE, *Dublin:*

Your dispatch just received. I will do all that I can. There is nothing in this country to impress. I am trying to gather up a few potatoes. I have sent an agent to Staunton to try and borrow something for a few days, if he cannot do anything else. The men are on half rations of breadstuffs. I can work along four or five days longer.

JOHN ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. HEADQUARTERS, *Kinston, N. C., April* 11, 1864.

It is with mortification as well as surprise that complaints are daily heard at these headquarters of the lawlessness of the troops composing this command, especially since the repeated orders on the subject which have been issued to them. It is totally unworthy the character of men who call themselves soldiers, fighting to sustain the right and against a corrupt government and people. Men are caught daily straggling 20 miles from camp, thieving and plundering people to whom the hardships of war have barely left a support. The brigadier-general commanding therefore directs that strict guards be kept around each encampment, and no man will be permitted to leave its confines without the written authority of regiment or battalion commanders. It is with reluctance that this measure is resorted to, but it is determined to break up these disgraces and outrages, and more rigid means will be adopted should these prove insufficient. It is hoped that it will not be necessary to recur again to the subject.

By command of Brigadier-General Corse:

P. B. HOOE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
*Richmond, April* 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding, &c., Orange Court-House, Va.:*

GENERAL: I am reliably informed that the U. S. marshal, with a guard, is in Loudoun County, near Leesburg, serving notices on

tenants and others, so as to stop the rents of lands and houses for the benefit of that Government. Will it not be well to call the attention of Major Mosby to the fact, that any parties engaged in that work may be captured, or, if possible, frightened from the county, which would be preferable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *April* 12, 1864.

Respectfully referred to, General Stuart, who is requested to inform Lieutenant-Colonel Mosby of the facts and direct that efforts be made to capture or drive the U. S. marshal out of Loudoun and every other county in Virginia beyond our lines.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 13, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Lieut. Col. J. S. Mosby.
Please see remarks of commanding general.
By command of Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart:

H. B. McCLELLAN,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. 43D VIRGINIA PARTISAN RANGERS BATTALION,
*April* 16, 1864.

Respectfully returned, with the information that the honorable Secretary of War has been misinformed. No Federal foot presses the soil of Loudoun. My quartermaster is now engaged in collecting supplies in that section.

JNO. S. MOSBY,
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 12, 1864.

Mr. PRESIDENT: My anxiety on the subject of provisions for the army is so great that I cannot refrain from expressing it to Your Excellency. I cannot see how we can operate with our present supplies. Any derangement in their arrival or disaster to the railroad would render it impossible for me to keep the army together, and might force a retreat into North Carolina. There is nothing to be had in this section for man or animals. We have rations for the troops to-day and to-morrow. I hope a new supply arrived last night, but I have not yet had a report. Every exertion should be made to supply the depots at Richmond and at other points. All pleasure travel should cease, and everything be devoted to necessary wants.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

HEADQUARTERS, *April* 12, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

MR. PRESIDENT: I have received this morning a report from Colonel Mosby, dated 4 a. m., 11th instant. He had just returned from a scout in Fairfax, and reiterates the opinion that no re-enforcements have been given to the Army of the Potomac, but that the enemy is attempting to impress the idea upon our citizens that it has been largely increased. He says the trains of last week carried down infantry and artillery, and that a large number of wagons went down on the cars. He further states that the troops from the West, as well as those from Meade, have gone to Annapolis; that a large portion of the troops from the defenses around Washington have been removed and the Invalid Corps substituted, and negro troops sent to the valley. I do not know how he got this information, except from citizens, and the first part conflicts with information from special scouts, who must have obtained it by observation. A report from Channing Smith, of the 10th, states that the sutlers, traders, and all persons not connected with the Army of the Potomac are ordered to leave. All extra baggage, &c., has been ordered to Washington. The wagons reported by Mosby may have been surplus, broken, &c., sent back. C. Smith repeats the report that the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps have been ordered to Meade and are daily expected. I see an order published in the Washington Chronicle of the 8th that the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps have been consolidated into the Twentieth, under General Hooker, and that Maj. Gen. P. H. Sheridan has been assigned to the command of the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac. Reports from the valley state that the enemy have left Halltown and are leaving Harper's Ferry; they do not now allow produce to be brought within their lines; that the Eleventh New York Cavalry has left that district, and that Martinsburg and Cumberland are garrisoned by negroes. Captain Calmese attacked about 150 of the enemy in Winchester on the 8th; drove them to Stephenson's Depot, capturing 30 prisoners of the Sixth [West] Virginia Cavalry, 28 horses, equipments, arms, &c., some provisions. No loss on our part. Scouts on the Potomac report that ten steamers with troops, estimated about two brigades, passed up the river on the 9th. They may be merely sick, &c. If they are preparing armed transports and launches for disembarking troops I think they can only be intended for the James River. I see no other place where they would be required. We should be prepared in that quarter. A landing may be intended at City Point to capture Drewry's Bluff. I think it probable that at the appointed time operations at Charleston will be suspended and certain troops and iron-clads be transferred to James River, as I see it stated in the Northern papers that General Gillmore has been assigned a part in the proposed campaign in Virginia.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 12, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR, *Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to the importance of making the best preparation in our power to meet any possible con-

tingencies of the campaign that in all probability is now near at hand. No arrangements that our foresight can suggest or our means accomplish should be neglected, and while every exertion should, and I doubt not will, be made to insure our success, we should not be unprepared for unfavorable results, and neglect precautions that may lighten any calamity that may befall us.

The subject of the greatest immediate importance is the collection at suitable and safe places of adequate supplies of provisions and forage. I earnestly recommend that no private interests be allowed to interfere with the use of all the facilities for transportation that we possess until the wants of the Army are provided for. The railroad should be at once devoted exclusively to this purpose, even should it be found necessary to suspend all private travel for business or pleasure upon them for the present.

It is difficult, in view of the conflicting information received, to ascertain what the purpose of the enemy may be, but an investment of Richmond is one of the possibilities for which we should be prepared. Even should no actual investment be made, it is not improbable that an accumulation of troops in or near the city may become necessary, and operations may be carried on in its immediate vicinity. In either case I think it very desirable that all the population whose presence would impede or endanger our efforts should be removed, especially that part of it which increases the consumption of public stores, without aiding or strengthening the army. Prisoners of the enemy and our own paroled men are of this class, and I think no time should be lost in placing them in some other locality. Besides these, the presence of Federal deserters and persons with no visible and reputable means of support is not only a burden, but in a critical movement might be attended with danger. As far as practicable all such should be removed from the city and every encouragement given to the rest of the non-combatant population to retire, except those whose services may be useful or who will not increase the scarcity of supplies.

With reference to the transportation of supplies, &c., I beg leave also to urge that all officers and agents connected with it be required to give their constant personal attention to their duties. They should not only give orders and directions, but as far as practicable see in person to the faithful execution of them. Much that is considered impracticable from the reports of employés and agents has been found to be feasible when intelligent and energetic officers have taken it in hand themselves. All should be prepared for a degree of effort, self-sacrifice, and labor, until the crisis has been safely passed, such as may not be necessary in the performance of duty on ordinary occasions. You will be able best to determine how the surplus population to which I have referred can be disposed of, but you will perceive the urgent necessity that nothing should be left undone while there is yet time to make our preparations. I think it advisable also that such public property as is not necessary for the immediate use of the army should be removed to a place of security without delay.

Whatever inconvenience and even hardship may result from a vigorous and thorough preparation for the most complete defense we can make will be speedily forgotton in the event of success or amply repaid by the benefits such a course will confer upon us in case of misfortune.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

HEADQUARTERS, *April* 12, 1864.

General STUART:

GENERAL: I have read Mosby's letter. He seems to be confident of his information, and he may be correct. But it is strange that among all the other scouts none should have discovered this counter movement. Mosby seems to draw a distinction between re-enforcements and recruits that have joined Meade. You know Smith and others state that no corps has joined him, but recruits, detachments, &c. A corps may have been sent to Burnside and replaced by the troops from the railroad, Washington, Alexandria, &c., yet as now organized I do not think they would detach one of their present corps; if they have we ought to know it, and strike at them. Can you find it out?

Very truly,

R. E. LEE.

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APRIL 12, 1864.

General PICKETT,
*Petersburg:*

Enemy reported moving troops from New Berne. Destination not known.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 85. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, April* 12, 1864.

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XXVI. Col. T. M. R. Talcott, commanding First Regiment Engineer Troops, will proceed with that portion of his command now stationed at Camp Gilmer, near this city, to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty.

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By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 13, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Commanding Armies of Confederate States:*

GENERAL: From the letters of Generals Pickett and Hoke the completion of the gun-boats seemed so distant and even indefinite that I could see no advantage in retaining the latter longer in North Carolina. All the troops we can get will be required in Virginia, and, as far as I can judge, those not necessary in the Department of Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida should be moved northward gradually, so as not to interrupt the transportation of supplies, to the extent at least of replacing Pickett and Hoke. Pickett should be disengaged so as to join Longstreet. Our scouts report that the three corps of General Meade's army, as at present organized, number

75,000 men, and that he will move with 100,000. This force is said to be independent of Burnside and that which will be on the Peninsula. I did not intend to change Johnston's position till I saw further as to the probable plans of the enemy, and have not yet ordered Hoke to join me. If anything is to be done in North Carolina it should be done quickly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *Kinston, N. C., April* 13, 1864.

Col. J. N. WHITFORD,
*Commanding Sixty-seventh North Carolina:*

COLONEL: General Corse directs that you have your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. B. HOOE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., April* 14, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 12th instant, just received, and to thank you very sincerely for the valuable suggestions it contained. They fortify me by the might of your authority in the convictions of policy entertained and the line of action I had adopted, to some extent, in pursuance of them. The most earnest efforts are being made to command the full resources for transportation of the railroad lines, and I have not hesitated to stop passenger trains whenever by so doing Government freight could be increased or expedited. The officer in charge of railroad transportation has been sent out, and is now absent on a mission, with all the power the Department could confer, to secure the fullest concert of action and the employment of all the means that could be commanded for transportation. The Piedmont Railroad is being pressed to early completion, but, unfortunately, the recent floods oppose embarrassing impediments, which may delay it two weeks longer than I confidently anticipated. I still hope it may be completed in the early part of next month.

I am thoroughly convinced of the importance of depleting the population of Richmond, and have, on more occasions than one before the reception of your letter, urged on the President the exercise of his influence and authority to accomplish the removal of the population, so far as they could be spared from the necessary work of the city. Such steps have not as yet been taken, for the difficulties and embarrassments attending it must be acknowledged to be of a very grave character. It is next to impossible to make, by the action of the Government, adequate provision for the shelter and support of the numbers which would then be thrown homeless and indigent upon the country, and even those who had means of self-support would find it very difficult to obtain accommodation

and supplies. Refugees have begun to be regarded with less of sympathy than of apprehension, for they are looked upon as diminishing the means and increasing the privations of the communities to which they may flee. Still, I fear necessity requires that, to a considerable extent, the removal of the useless population from the city should be attempted, for without such measure I do not see the possibility of accumulating the requisite reserve of supplies to enable us to meet partial reverse and bear brief interruption of communication.

The prisoners of the enemy and our own paroled men are nearly all removed, and the rest will speedily follow. The hospitals and work-shops will be cleared of all who can be spared, and such machinery and stores as are not of immediate necessity I have directed to be prepared and gradually removed. It will be difficult to induce either the people of the city or our officers to make the requisite exertions and sacrifices which a prudent precaution demands, for they repose such confidence in the valor of our troops and the generalship of their commanders as to be incredulous of approaching danger. Still, I hope your counsels and the influence of the Department will not be wholly without avail in inducing the "efforts, self-sacrifice, and labor, until the crisis has been safely passed," which a prudent forecast of all contingencies demands.

Experience of the past and a just reliance on our means of defense, employed with the skill and energy which have heretofore guided us, may well entitle us to expect, under the blessing of Heaven, deliverance from the worst efforts of our malignant foes; but we should not be the less prepared to be grateful and happy in triumph for having realized our danger and arranged to meet and repair the consequences of a reverse.

Very truly, yours,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 14, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*Charleston, S. C.:*

Send Evans' brigade (five regiments) to Wilmington by railroad immediately. Should any portion be detached beyond Savannah, so as to delay the movement, substitute an equal number from the nearest available force. Report its departure.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 14, 1864.

General W. H. C. WHITING,
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

Order Martin's brigade to Weldon immediately by railroad. It will be replaced by another. Report its departure.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

WILMINGTON, *April* 14, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Dispatch in cipher received. Brigade ordered to move. One regiment (Seventeenth), the strongest, is on the harbor 25 miles from here. The movement of the others leaves me utterly defenseless. The first train goes at once.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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APRIL 14, 1864.

[Col. J. N. WHITFORD:]

COLONEL: The enemy are making some demonstrations below on the other side of the river. The general directs that you keep on the lookout and report promptly anything from your front. Keep your men together and ready to be under arms at any moment. It may be necessary to move you in this direction. If you are attacked, however, hold your position.

Very respectfully,

P. B. HOOE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

General Corse wants one or two men as guides around this place. Please send them mounted. They should know the Wilmington, White Hall, Dover, Neuse, the Trent roads, &c.

P. B. H.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HEADQUARTERS, *Kinston, N. C., April* 14, 1864.

Col. G. N. Folk, commanding Sixth Regiment North Carolina Cavalry, will relieve Col. J. T. Mercer of the command of the outposts.

By command of Brigadier-General Corse:

P. B. HOOE,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 87. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, April* 14, 1864.

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XXII. In addition to his present duties, Brigadier-General Imboden is charged with the enrollment and organization of the reserve forces of Virginia in the counties of Botetourt, Roanoke, Craig, Rockingham, Pendleton, Highland, Augusta, Bath, Rockbridge, Alleghany, Page, Shenandoah, Hardy, and such portions of country lower down the valley as can be controlled.

The enrolling officers in the counties named, and such supernumerary and invalid officers as may be available, will proceed with these duties rapidly, under the supervision of General Imboden, who will act in co-operation with the Bureau of Conscription, and in strict accordance with the provisions of law and orders.

The rolls will be forwarded without delay to this office for official action; and mean time arrangements will be perfected for the prompt assembling of the men in the event that the President shall deem it necessary to call these forces into active service.

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By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 18. } HDQRS. ARTY., ARMY OF NORTHERN VA., *April* 14, 1864.

Col. J. T. Brown, commanding Second Corps Artillery, will move his command to the grazing camp selected, commencing his march on Monday, weather permitting. The day before his command moves he will send forward a pioneer corps to put the road in order. Battalions will be kept well closed up, all straggling will be prevented, and the journey will be made by easy marches. As many guns as can be will be carried; the balance, together with other property left, will be left at Frederick's Hall under guard.

By command of General Long, acting chief of artillery:

S. V. SOUTHALL,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 15, 1864.

MR. PRESIDENT: The reports of the scouts are still conflicting as to the character of the re-enforcements to the Army of the Potomac and the composition of that at Annapolis under General Burnside. I think it probable that the Eighth Corps, which embraces the troops who have heretofore guarded the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the intrenchments around Washington, Alexandria, &c., have been moved up to the Rappahannock, and that an equivalent has been sent to Annapolis from General Meade.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mosby states that the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps, consolidated, have also been sent to General Burnside. But whatever doubt there may be on these points, I think it certain that the enemy is organizing a large army on the Rappahannock, and another at Annapolis, and that the former is intended to move directly on Richmond, while the latter is intended to take it in flank or rear. I think we may also reasonably suppose that the Federal troops that have so long besieged Charleston will, with a portion of their iron-clad steamers, be transferred to the James River. I consider that the suspension of the attack on that city was virtually declared when General Gillmore transferred his operations to the Saint John's River. It can only be continued during the summer months by the fleet. The expedition of the enemy up Red River has so diminished his forces about New Orleans and Mobile that I think no attack upon the latter city need be apprehended soon, especially as we have reason to hope that he will return from his expedition in a shattered condition. I have thought, therefore, that General Johnston might draw something from Mobile during the summer to strengthen his hands, and that General Beauregard with a portion of his troops might move into North Carolina to oppose General Burnside should

he resume his old position in that State, or be ready to advance to the James River should that route be taken. I do not know what benefit General Buckner can accomplish in his present position. If he is able to advance into Tennessee, reoccupy Knoxville, or unite with General Johnston great good may be accomplished; but if he can only hold Bristol, I think he had better be called for a season to Richmond. We shall have to glean troops from every quarter to oppose the apparent combination of the enemy. If Richmond could be held secure against the attack from the east, I would propose that I draw Longstreet to me and move right against the enemy on the Rappahannock. Should God give us a crowning victory there, all their plans would be dissipated, and their troops now collecting on the waters of the Chesapeake would be recalled to the defense of Washington. But to make this move I must have provisions and forage. I am not yet able to call to me the cavalry or artillery. If I am obliged to retire from this line, either by a flank movement of the enemy or the want of supplies, great injury will befall us. I have ventured to throw out these suggestions to Your Excellency in order that in surveying the whole field of operations you may consider all the circumstances bearing on the question. Should you determine it is better to divide this army and fall back toward Richmond I am ready to do so. I, however, see no better plan for the defense of Richmond than that I have proposed.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *April* 15, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

One regiment infantry leaves to-day, two to-morrow, and two day after.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*General, Commanding.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 15, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*Charleston, S. C.:*

Repair with the least delay practicable to Weldon, N. C., where instructions will be sent to you.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 15, 1864.

Major-General BUCKNER,
*Bristol, Tenn.:*

Order Major-General Ransom to repair forthwith to this city for other and distant service.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

WILMINGTON, *April* 15, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Which shall I send, troops or corn? I have peremptory orders for both. Troops are moving.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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APRIL 15, 1864.

Colonel JACKSON,
*Magnolia:*

Corse reports enemy attacked his pickets yesterday. Repulsed. May be a feint to cover move on railroad.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*April* 15, 1864.

Maj. CHARLES S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:*

MAJOR: A letter from Colonel Jackson, received this morning, says:

Scouts report the concentration of forces at New Creek Depot, and reiterate the reports that a considerable force has been transported on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to the Army of the Potomac. They also represent that a large amount of supplies have been taken to Beverly, and that the place is strongly fortified. A battalion was sent from Clarksburg to Buckhannon.

A young lady named Simonton, who is represented to me as very intelligent, reached Lewisburg two days ago. She was sent out from her home on the Kanawha for alleged disloyalty. She sent me a statement on yesterday, which she says she knows to be accurate. I herewith inclose, for the information of the major-general commanding, a copy of the statement.* It has been some ten or twelve days since she left Charleston. I have heard from other reliable sources of the accumulation by the enemy at Gauley and Loup Creek, some 5 or 6 miles lower down the Kanawha River, of large quantities of forage and other supplies. They seem to be getting their cavalry in good condition.

I am, major, very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 16, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Commanding Armies of Confederate States:*

GENERAL: I received last evening your letter of the 14th instant by the hands of Major Parker. I trust that the expedition in North Carolina will be attended with success, and that the troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida may be made available to oppose the combined operations of the enemy in Vir-

* Not found.

ginia. No attack of moment can be made upon Charleston or the Southern coast during the summer months, and I think General Johnston can draw with impunity some troops from Mobile to him. Buckner's force, too, might be made available in some way; I fear as he stands now it will be lost to us. At present my hands are tied. If I was able to move, with the aid of Longstreet and Pickett, the enemy might be driven from the Rappahannock and be obliged to look to the safety of his own capital instead of the assault upon ours. I cannot even draw to me the cavalry or artillery of the army, and the season has arrived when I may be attacked any day. The scarcity of our supplies gives me the greatest uneasiness. All travel should be suspended on the railroad until a sufficiency is secured. I can have a portion of the corn ground into meal for the army if it is sent to me. I do not know whether all can be furnished. The mills are mostly on the Rapidan, and consequently exposed if any movement takes place. It will also increase the hauling, which at this time I should like to avoid if possible. If the meal can be prepared in Richmond it will be more convenient at this time. If it cannot, we can at least grind part of the corn if sent to us. If we are forced back from our present line the Central Railroad, Charlottesville, and all the upper country will be exposed, and I fear great injury inflicted on us.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 16, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Commanding Armies of Confederate States:*

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 13th, inclosing a copy of a communication from Colonel Gorgas in reference to the large proportion of artillery with this army. I have never found it too large in battle, and it has generally been opposed by about 300 pieces of the enemy of larger caliber, longer range, and with more effective ammunition. If, however, its equipment overtaxes the means of the Ordnance Department, or, as you suggest, its supply of horses cannot be kept up, that decides the question, and no argument on the subject is necessary. Taking the European standard of three guns for every 1,000 men, based upon the experience of their wars, not ours, the number of guns in this army will fall short, provided the regiments are filled to the minimum allowed by law. I think Colonel Gorgas is correct in not adhering to this standard when the organizations recede from their maximum of strength. Taking his own standard, and allowing five guns to each brigade, we ought to have 230 guns. Longstreet has twelve brigades, Ewell thirteen, Hill fourteen, and the cavalry (including the Carolina brigade being organized) seven—forty-six brigades. Taking Colonel Gorgas' statement as correct, which I have not time to verify, there are in this army 197 guns; with General Longstreet 27, and in the Washington Artillery (if full) 16 = 238 [240]. The excess is not large, but going back to the European standard we have 206 regiments. Taking the minimum and not the maximum of strength ($206 \times 640 = 131{,}840$), and allowing three guns for every 1,000 men ($131{,}840 \div 3 = 395$ guns. Our aggregate present and absent would give us more. I differ from

Colonel Gorgas in thinking that twenty guns are too much for the cavalry. In my opinion they are not enough. We should have a battery for each brigade and a reserve battery for each division. The seven brigades would require seven batteries, and the three divisions three reserve batteries, making ten.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 16, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

GENERAL: I learn from General Longstreet that all of his troops will not reach Charlottesville before the 21st, the railroad not being able to transport over 1,500 a day. For want of good camping ground in the neighborhood of that place, I have directed him to take position in the vicinity of Gordonsville, where he will be more convenient for service here or eastward, and for procurement of supplies. The brigades will march from Charlottesville as they arrive, so as not to embarrass the railroad. General Longstreet states that, with the view of equalizing the commands with him in Tennessee, he had attached Law's brigade of Hood's old division to Buckner's division for service, Buckner having with him but two of his brigades, the other being with General Johnston's army. He has not ordered Law's brigade to move with his corps. I understood the order of the department to embrace all of his corps with him. If that was the intention, I request you to order Law's brigade forward. The brigades in motion with General Longstreet will amount to about 9,000 men. That of Law numbers about 1,500.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Charlottesville, Va., April* [16?], 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
*Commanding, &c., Orange Court-House:*

GENERAL: The troops are coming in very slowly, owing to our very imperfect railroad arrangements. We cannot hope to have the command up before the middle of next week.

It may have a good effect during this delay for me to go to Petersburg and remain. By leaving my horses, &c., with the command, I could get back by express train in full time for any emergency. If the enemy learns that I am at Petersburg he will in all probability assume that my troops are with me, and that that is the point at which my corps will rendezvous instead of this.

If such should be the effect, he will move with more caution in that direction and more boldness in this, and we may, by this means, get a fine opportunity at him. I think that we should not advance here until we learn that the army at Annapolis has set out on its intended expedition; then, having all things well prepared, I think that we should take up the shortest line of march for Washington City. We will be able to get between the enemy and his capital, and, by pushing on toward it, we will force him to give battle hurriedly in order to save his capital. If he does that we ought to have great reason to hope that we may destroy him and get his capital.

It seems to me that this will be our safest and best move, whatever may be the service intended for General Burnside's army. If he goes up York River or to Urbanna we would force Meade to fight before Burnside could join him. If he goes to the south side of the James we ought to be able to get Washington before he could get back there.

I suggested last fall the idea of fortifying Richmond below, so as to hold the river at Drewry's and Chaffin's Bluffs with our vessels and about 10,000 men. In the course of the summer's campaign it may become necessary to use all of the rest of your troops in such a manner as to leave Richmond exposed. If it should so turn out, and the enemy should get there and get possession of the river, he will hold it for the balance of the war; but if we can even hold the position on the river we will be able to recover Richmond very readily, even if we should have the bad fortune to lose it temporarily.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 89. } *Richmond, April* 16, 1864.

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XLII. Col. George A. Gordon, commanding Sixty-third Georgia Volunteers, will proceed by railroad with his regiment to headquarters Department of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to Brig. Gen. A. R. Wright's brigade.

XLIII. Maj. J. E. Rylander will proceed by railroad with his battalion (the Tenth Georgia) to headquarters Department of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to Brig. Gen. A. R. Wright's brigade.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 30. } *April* 16, 1864.

In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 81, paragraph XXI, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Maj. Gen. M. L. Smith is hereby assigned to duty as chief engineer of this army, and will be respected accordingly.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE,
*Narrows, April* 16, 1864.

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: Your confidential letter of the 15th has been received. The scouts are now out. A scouting party of 30 men, under Captain Crawford, Seventeenth Cavalry, left the Mercer salt-wells on the 3d and returned on the 14th; they went within 6 miles of Brownstown,

Kanawha County, and captured 7 Yankees. He reports everything quiet and the location of the Yankee troops unchanged.

Mrs. John McMullen tells me the same, and they both state this: Twelfth and Ninety-first Ohio and Ninth Virginia (bogus) and Simmonds' battery, at Fayetteville; Fifth Virginia (bogus), at Montgomery's Ferry; Second Virginia (bogus) Cavalry, at Camp Piatt; Twenty-third and Thirty-fourth Ohio and McMullin's battery, at Charleston; Thirteenth Virginia (bogus), at Cabell Court-House: squadron of cavalry, at Winfield, Putnam County, W. Va.

General Crook has just returned from Washington, where he had been in consultation with Grant. The force on Kanawha has neither been diminished nor increased.

Respectfully,

JNO. McCAUSLAND,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Warm Springs, Va., April* 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General ECHOLS,
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Scouts report that Beverly has been re-enforced by the Eleventh (bogus) Virginia Regiment, making three regiments and artillery there; also a regiment is believed to be at Summerville, as troops moved from Buckhannon, Weston, and Bulltown in that direction. This may be the same party that was at Summerville a short time since. There does not seem to be any other indications of an intention to advance; the weather is too unsettled. The distribution of my force is as follows: McNeel's company at Mill Point, scouting to Edray; Marshall's at Camp Northwest, this side of Huntersville, scouting to Green Bank, &c., with constant concealed scouts near Beverly; Colonel Arnett, with the Twentieth Virginia Cavalry, at Crab Bottom. Colonel A. has, in addition, one company of the Forty-sixth Battalion. So large a force is required at Crab Bottom to guard and protect the horses of my command on grass and hay there. It is also in a good position to give notice of and delay any raid from New Creek, &c. Colonel Arnett has instructions to send me information of all movements of the enemy, delay and harass any advance, and if pressed to fall back to me by way of McGraw's Gap. Captains McNeel and Marshall have the same instructions. The McGraw's Gap route, therefore, should not be destroyed; I understand its destruction is proposed. The Forty-seventh Battalion, Lurty's battery, five companies of the Forty-sixth Battalion, and eight companies of the Nineteenth will be at Jackson's River Depot on Monday evening, the 18th instant. For a time the hospital will have to be kept here, as it would not do to move the sick. My courier lines will be from your headquarters to this point, where I shall remain for a time (unless you direct otherwise), in view of the above disposition of my force, and to obtain the earliest news of any advance of the enemy. Of course, I will be in communication with all my detachments. I have issued strict orders as to discipline, drill, and am making every effort to thoroughly equip my command. My position here will enable me to give you the earliest information of any movement of the enemy on this line. My teams are being rested, and are on grass in the Falling Springs Valley. As soon as they are recruited, if no move-

ments interfere and the grass will suffice, I hope to be allowed to move into Pocahontas. You will please apprise the major-general commanding of the disposition of my forces, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. L. JACKSON,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 17, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: The difficulties which have existed and now exist in regard to supplies for this department compel me again to address you. On this subject I respectfully refer you to my letter of the 30th of March last.

Attempting to follow the circular from the Commissary-General's Office, of July 15, 1863, Major King, my chief commissary, applied to Major Noland, chief purchasing agent for Virginia, and was by him referred to Major Cloyd, chief purchasing agent for this district. Major Cloyd expressed every desire to meet our wants, but said he was only purchasing agent, and his duties were exhausted when he bought supplies and turned them over to the post commissaries, who would issue on requisition. My requisitions on these officers were not filled, sometimes because the purchasing agent had not furnished supplies enough, and sometimes because those on hand were shipped out of the department by direct orders from the Commissary-General's Office. Major Noland also construed the duties of Major Cloyd differently from that officer, and by his orders Major C. sent out large supplies without turning them over to the post commissaries to be issued on requisition.

Mean time the case was urgent, and some of the troops actually suffering. Under these circumstances I issued the order holding the supplies then in the hands of the post commissaries, and which was fully explained in my letter of the 30th of March. It was not intended to violate any law or regulation.

I have caused requisitions to be made for a supply for one quarter. This was only a notification of our prospective wants, for of course I did not expect it all to be furnished at once. But in view of the detached condition of my troops, their distance from the depots of supply, and the almost impassable state of the roads, I have thought it necessary to collect at least one month's supply.

Requisitions did no good, for even in anticipation of collection at the posts the supplies were directed to be sent out of the department by orders from Richmond. To meet the emergency I ordered my chief quartermaster and chief commissary of subsistence, under existing laws and regulations authorizing a department commander to impress, to collect a month's supplies. This odious recourse was only resorted to under extreme necessity. These officers are executing the order, but to-day Major King, my chief commissary of subsistence, shows me a dispatch direct to him, from the Commissary-General, ordering him to withdraw his "purchasing agents" and direct them to report to Major Cloyd for orders. Of course, these agents employed in carrying out the order first offer the Government price; if refused, they impress.

I have tried every other mode prescribed by law and regulation. Finally, I have resorted to impressment. If an order, not to me from

your office, but to my chief commissary of subsistence, sent direct by the Commissary-General, can stop this mode also I shall be compelled to report that it will be impossible to feed the troops. I will hear from the Department before I cease impressing.

I know the great difficulties the Commissary-General has to encounter in feeding the armies, and nothing could induce me to interpose an illegal or factious obstacle. At the same time I must remark that under the great pressure for supplies this department has been stripped from every direction, and our requisitions have not been filled. At this moment my cavalry horses, and even many of the artillery horses, are gleaning forage in the rear, while immense quantities of it have been sent out of the department for troops elsewhere.

I would respectfully suggest that the troops of a department should be first supplied out of its resources; and accordingly, if the purchasing-agent system developed in the circular of July 15, 1863, is to be regarded as exhausting the whole field, that the purchasing agent and the post commissaries should be required first to fill my reasonable requisitions and then send the surplus, if any, out of the department.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 18, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: Recent information from scouts reconcile many discrepancies of former reports. Lieutenant-Colonel Mosby, upon closer examination, finds that the troops sent back to Alexandria from the Rappahannock consisted of some furloughed regiments which had re-enlisted, invalids, sick, sutlers, retainers, &c. The artillery and wagons were the disabled pieces, carriages, &c., that had been replaced by others. I think no new corps has joined General Meade. He has been re-enforced by recruits, detachments, and the troops from about Washington, &c., but no corps or divisions have been detached from him. I do not think his army will exceed 75,000 men, though they claim to have 100,000. I believe that two corps have been transferred from the West to Annapolis, the Ninth and probably the Eleventh and Twelfth consolidated. All accounts agree that two corps have passed over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad east. As to the numbers of the corps reports vary. A scout just from the valley reports that Averell left Martinsburg last Tuesday, and moved up the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, taking with him all the cavalry that could be spared from that region, leaving only a garrison at Martinsburg. There is now no force at Harper's Ferry. A physician of his acquaintance went into Martinsburg and learned that two corps had passed down the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad toward Baltimore; did not know whence they came. Same information comes from other sources. I think it probable that Averell will move upon the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, or Staunton, or some point west, at the time of the general movement upon Richmond, from some point beyond the North Mountain. I think, too, General Grant will rely upon his flank movement upon Richmond to draw this army back. If that movement can be suc-

cessfully met and resisted. I have no uneasiness as to the result of the campaign in Virginia. I know of no better plan than that submitted in a former letter to Your Excellency.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. D. IMBODEN, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: A scout just from the valley reports that Averell, with all the cavalry that could be spared from that region, left Martinsburg and went up the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad last Tuesday, leaving only a garrison in that city. He also states that there is no force at Harper's Ferry. I think it probable that Averell will make an attempt upon the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad at the time proposed for the combined movement against Richmond from some point beyond the North Mountain. I see no indications of a movement up the valley. Reports have been industriously spread abroad to that effect. An examination of the Potomac and Winchester Railroad has been made by engineers, &c., but I believe it was with the intention of misleading. I hope you and General Breckinridge will be prepared to unite and beat him back wherever he may come, and drive him across the Potomac. I shall be so occupied, in all probability, that I shall be unable to aid you.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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MOUNT CRAWFORD, *April* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

Enemy is concentrating considerable force at Grafton, New Creek, Cumberland, and Martinsburg. Sullivan has gone to Grafton. Another raid is brewing. I can watch all points except Beverly. Will advise you promptly of any movement discovered.

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 18, 1864.

General W. H. C. WHITING, *Wilmington, N. C.:*

Evans' brigade is not designed to replace Martin's. It must move on to Weldon.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. B. BUCKNER, *Bristol, Tenn.:*

Send Law's brigade to Charlottesville to report to General Field. General Law will be relieved from arrest and put in command of it. The charge against him will not be further entertained.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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* Entered in General Lee's letter-book as "substance" of letter.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 18, 1864.

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: I forward herewith a copy of my department return* for March, which I presume, from Major Melton's communication of the 13th instant, must have miscarried. The original return was sent on the 9th instant.

My attention is also called to the circular of June, 1863, requiring tri-monthly reports. Every effort has been made to comply with that circular, and the necessary orders have been issued. I find, on inquiry, that Major-General Jones addressed several letters to the Department, explaining the circumstances which rendered it impossible for him to make tri-monthly returns, and the same reasons will render it equally impracticable now. There are so many separate detachments and commands in this department, which the exigencies of the service require to be kept at places widely apart, with most of which I can communicate by couriers only, that one clerk is kept almost constantly employed in making up a single return for the month. The frequent mistakes made in the reports of subordinate officers rendered it necessary to return them for correction. So great is the distance of some commands or detachments from headquarters that at least eight days are thus consumed before the erroneous report can be received here again, even if the officer should have the means of correcting it on the spot. This will not seem singular when I remind you that some of my troops are at Jackson's River Depot and others at Saltville, separated about 150 miles in an air-line. If I should hereafter be able to collect my troops near enough together to render it possible, the tri-monthly returns shall be made as required.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 90. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, April* 18, 1864.

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XXXI. The District of Cape Fear is united with the Department of North Carolina, which is placed under the command of General G. T. Beauregard.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*April* 19, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Comdg. Armies Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a copy of the report of Maj. J. F. Milligan, signal officer, of the recent demonstration of the enemy in this department.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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* See abstract, p. 1250.

[Inclosure.]

PETERSBURG, VA., *April* 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
*Commanding Department of North Carolina:*

GENERAL: It is very evident to my mind that the party which made the raid upon the 14th instant upon Smithfield and Fort Boykin, via Chuckatuck, Holloway's Point, and Stone-House Wharf, are not any of Burnside's forces.

The party was under command of General Graham, and consisted of the Twenty-third Massachusetts Regiment, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment, a Michigan regiment, a New Jersey regiment, and a Wisconsin battery of six pieces, with two companies of negro infantry. The force, all told, was not over 2,500 men. From the nature and character of the vessels composing Burnside's flotilla, it shows conclusively they are not intended for a sea voyage, they being principally river steamers of light draught. My scouts are vigilant and active, and from their different stand-points of investigation report in detail the result of their information, which I venture to assert has always heretofore proved reliable.

Our lady friend on the north shore reports that the plan of landing on the south side of the James River, above the Appomattox, is still freely discussed. The advance of the enemy along the line of Blackwater on the 14th instant and this raid along the line of James and Pagan Creek was evidently intended to create a diversion from their real point of attack. I would also respectfully call your attention to the fact that a part of Graham's force, the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment, is certainly from the front of Charleston, S. C., and for all I know other troops may have been sent from there to make up General Smith's command for general operations throughout his department. We have now two scouts in the enemy's lines near Old Point, whom I expect a report from on to-morrow, or as soon after as practicable for them to communicate with the signal station at Fort Boykin. The enemy took particular pains to report that it was General Burnside's forces who were on their way to Weldon via Joyner's Ford and Franklin, which accounts for the reports of the scouts along the Nansemond, who were within 5 miles of Portsmouth while the enemy held Suffolk.

Since the 14th instant the enemy's flotilla at Old Point and Newport News are very much increased, and the enemy upon the lower James are particularly active and their guard-boats more vigilant since Davidson's gallant attempt to destroy the Minnesota.

All of which is most respectfully submitted by your obedient servant,

JAS. F. MILLIGAN,
*Major and Signal Officer, Dept. of North Carolina.*

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TUESDAY [*April* 19, 1864]—10 p. m.

Major-General ELZEY:

SIR: The enemy appeared to-day in Rappahannock, opposite Bowler's Ferry, consisting of five transports and four gun-boats. They landed in the North Neck, opposite Bowler's Ferry, and are carrying off all the negroes they can see, young and old; and I learn their intention is to take off grain, meat, and cattle. Their force amounts to about 500 white troops. There appeared at the mouth of the

Rappahannock River this morning forty-five sails of vessels—I mean gun-boats and transports—supposed to be Burnside's fleet. They have not as yet appeared in the river (sundown to-night). I will learn more to-morrow and inform you.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. BRAXTON,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

The enemy have gone aboard of their boats, but still lie in the same place.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 19, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR, *Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: The letter of Lieutenant-Colonel Sims, of the 21st ultimo, referred to me by you, was received, and I have caused inquiry to be made to ascertain whether the mechanics for whom he asks can be furnished. I am fully aware of the necessity of increasing our means of transportation, and am gratified that the subject has been taken in hand by the Government. On a former occasion, when I was inquiring as to the possibility of building cars, &c., I was informed that the machine-shops which had been used for work of that kind were all engaged by the Navy Department. I recommended that the cars should be constructed at those shops if possible, as they had greater facilities than any that could now be built, besides having mechanics connected with them who had skill and experience in the business. In an interview with the Secretary of the Navy I understood that he thought the work could be done at those shops. If I am correct in this I hope that it may be undertaken, not only to avoid taking so many men from service, but because I am satisfied that the work can be better and more expeditiously performed. I have no doubt that, in view of the permanent importance of preserving the strength of the army and the impossibility of doing so without transportation adequate to supply it, the Secretary of the Navy will allow the necessary work of building cars, &c., to have precedence over any work of his Department less urgent and not immediately required, and that he will contribute all in his power to save the withdrawal of men from the field, where they are so much needed. I hope also that the Department will see that every means of obtaining the proper mechanics has been exhausted before calling upon the army for men. I think that the facility of obtaining labor in the army sometimes impairs the efforts of officers superintending Government works to procure it elsewhere, but I am sure that you will require every other means to be fully tried before resorting to our already weakened ranks. In the present instance, if mechanics cannot otherwise be had, they must be sent from the army, as the work to be done is essential to its existence, but I see no necessity for taking all from this army, now apparently more menaced than any other. The benefit to be derived from the construction of these cars, &c., will inure to all the armies, as it will relieve some of those on the Southern roads now used to supply us, and I think that if possible a proportionate number of mechanics should be drawn from all.

I have thought proper to bring these suggestions to your attention, with the hope that you may be able to give effect to them to the benefit of the service; but at the same time I will meet the demand

for these operatives as far as possible, should you consider it necessary that all should be drawn from this army, for, as I before remarked, the work must be done.

I have now the names of 8 blacksmiths, 36 carpenters, 6 molders, 5 finishers, and 4 rollers and puddlers, who can be had as soon as required. The other carpenters, it is thought, can also be had, and possibly the remaining finishers and rollers and puddlers, but their names are not yet received.

I trust, however, that arrangements can be made to spare some of these men, and in any case I hope they will only be called for when actually needed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 19, 1864.

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I learned yesterday from a scout, whom I had sent to the valley, that General Averell, on this day week, left Martinsburg with all the cavalry which could be spared from that region, and moved up the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. I think it probable, when the weather permits, or about the time when their proposed combined movement against Richmond takes place, that he will make another attack upon our western railroad at or beyond Staunton, from some point west of North Mountain. I see now no indication of an advance up the valley. There is only a garrison at Martinsburg, and no force, it is said, at Harper's Ferry. Such an advance has been industriously hinted abroad, an examination of the Potomac and Winchester Railroad made, but I believe it was done to deceive. I would recommend that Colonel Jackson keep his scouts toward Beverly, &c., on the alert, that you may receive early information of any preparations or movements, that you may be ready to meet an advance if made. General Meade's army is reported ready to advance. His sick, invalids, sutlers, &c., have been sent back to Washington, his troops rationed, and only waiting for the roads to become passable. Should an advance be made west of the Blue Ridge, I hope, with the aid of General Imboden, you will drive the assailants beyond the Potomac.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 32. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *April* 19, 1864.

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III. The general commanding directs the following modifications of paragraph VIII, General Orders, No. 27, from these headquarters. The chief quartermaster of the army will see that they are carried into effect without unnecessary delay.

There will be allowed for headquarters of each division one 6-horse wagon.

For transportation of medical stores of every two battalions artillery, one 2-horse wagon.

For the chief quartermaster of the artillery of army, one 4-horse wagon; to the chief quartermaster and commissary of subsistence of artillery of each corps, one 4-horse wagon. These wagons will be also required to transport the necessary forage for the animals at the headquarters, respectively.

For the officers of each regiment, including field, staff, surgeon, quartermaster, commissary of subsistence, and company officers, one 4-horse wagon.

For the officers of a battalion of artillery, including field, staff, surgeon, quartermaster, and company officers, one 4-horse wagon.

By command of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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BOYDTON, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, VA.,
*April* 19, 1864.

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: Being most anxious to enter the field in the coming campaign, and finding that my rank in the Provisional Army is apparently an insuperable obstacle to my wishes, I respectfully resign my commission as lieutenant-general, and request to be assigned, as lieutenant-colonel of artillery, to immediate active service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. PEMBERTON,
*Lieutenant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*April* 19, 1864.

Maj. CHARLES S. STRINGFELLOW, *Asst. Adjt. Gen.:*

I have received this morning from Colonel Jackson the following dispatch, dated last night:

Brig. Gen. J. ECHOLS, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: I inclose an exact copy of dispatch from General Imboden. I suppose "M. C." means Mount Crawford, as General I. was there when I last heard from him. You may rely upon my keeping a strict watch upon my front and right, and the forwarding of any important information. My last news from Beverly is three regiments and artillery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. JACKSON,
*Colonel.*

[Inclosure.]

M. C., 18.

Col. WILLIAM L. JACKSON, *Commanding, Warm Springs, Va.:*

Enemy is concentrating a considerable force at Grafton, under Sullivan. Look out for danger from Beverly. Formidable preparations going forward at New Creek, Cumberland, and Martinsburg. Another raid brewing. What force have you and where? We may have to co-operate. I am guarding all approaches from Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. We will give you timely warning of danger.

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

I have sent three different scouts to the Kanawha, who will strike the enemy's lines at different points. They were on foot, and will not report for a week or ten days. As soon as they do, I will forward the information given to the major-general commanding. I received information on yesterday that the enemy had put into New River,

at Bowyer's Ferry, a large ferry-boat. Bowyer's Ferry is about 8 miles from Fayette Court-House, and on the old State road to Lewisburg.

I am, major, very respectfully,

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE,
*Narrows, April* 19, 1864.

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW, *Asst. Adjt Gen.:*

MAJOR: The scouts have just returned; they report the arrival of fifteen pieces of artillery at Fayetteville, and great activity among the steam-boats on the Kanawha River. The enemy has rebuilt the large commissary house at Montgomery's Ferry, and is building a large hospital at the same place. The scouts think the enemy intends to attempt a move through to the railroad. The citizens with whom they conversed told them that the Yankees make no secret of it, and say that they will move when Grant is ready. I give you the report as they make it, and they are sensible and reliable men.

Respectfully,

JNO. McCAUSLAND,
*Colonel, Commanding.*

---

STAUNTON, *April* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

Saw General Imboden to-day at Mount Crawford. His scouts report that Sixth Army Corps, of Grant's army, arrived at Martinsburg the 16th instant, and Averell left last week for the west with his entire command; it is supposed for another raid on your line. General Sullivan is said to have concentrated 8,000 men at Beverly. Will return to-morrow if no further instructions are received.

R. L. POOR.

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*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, April* 20, 1864; *headquarters Orange Court-House, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Second Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell: | | | | |
| Staff | 16 | ..... | 16 | 19 |
| Early's division *a* | 393 | 4,182 | 5,578 | 9,007 |
| Johnson's division | 556 | 4,894 | 6,383 | 10,405 |
| Rodes' division *b* | 559 | 6,629 | 8,733 | 13,292 |
| Total | 1,524 | 15,705 | 20,710 | 32,723 |
| Third Army Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill: | | | | |
| Staff | 16 | ..... | 16 | 16 |
| Anderson's division | 553 | 6,439 | 7,910 | 11,991 |
| Heth's division | 558 | 6,948 | 8,502 | 14,349 |
| Wilcox's division | 569 | 7,261 | 8,963 | 12,646 |
| Total | 1,696 | 20,648 | 25,391 | 39,002 |

*a* Hoke's brigade detached; not reported. *b* Two regiments detached; not reported.

*Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, &c.*—Continued.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | |
| Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart: | | | | |
| Staff | 13 | ..... | 13 | 15 |
| Hampton's division | 304 | 2,931 | 3,815 | 8,192 |
| Fitzhugh Lee's division | 308 | 5,001 | 5,872 | 8,715 |
| Total | 625 | 7,932 | 9,700 | 16,922 |
| Artillery, Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton: | | | | |
| First Army Corps | 18 | 409 | 465 | 592 |
| Second Army Corps | 90 | 1,600 | 1,977 | 2,603 |
| Third Army Corps | 111 | 2,204 | 2,632 | 3,368 |
| Calvary Corps | 18 | 404 | 473 | 674 |
| Total | 237 | 4,617 | 5,547 | 7,237 |
| Unattached commands: | | | | |
| Valley District *a* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Maryland Line | 50 | 760 | 913 | 1,351 |
| Provost guard | 27 | 293 | 387 | 584 |
| Battalion scouts, guides, and couriers | 11 | 219 | 265 | 355 |
| Total | 88 | 1,272 | 1,565 | 2,290 |
| Grand total | 4,170 | 50,174 | 62,913 | 98,174 |

*a* Not reported.

*Abstract from return of the Army and Department of Western Virginia, Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding, April 20, 1864: headquarters Dublin, Pulaski County, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| General staff | 21 | ..... | ..... | 21 | 21 | ..... |
| Echols' brigade *a* | 108 | 1,599 | 1,599 | 1,872 | 2,454 | ..... |
| McCausland's brigade *b c* | 89 | 1,479 | 1,479 | 1,695 | 2,228 | ..... |
| 45th Virginia Infantry | 42 | 698 | 698 | 828 | 970 | ..... |
| Hart's company engineer troops *d* | 2 | 48 | 48 | 51 | 71 | ..... |
| Total infantry | 241 | 3,824 | 3,824 | 4,446 | 5,723 | ..... |
| W. L. Jackson's cavalry brigade *b e* | 95 | 823 | 823 | 1,026 | 1,982 | ..... |
| 14th Virginia Cavalry *f* | 36 | 509 | 509 | 576 | 855 | ..... |
| 16th Virginia Cavalry *g* | 19 | 189 | 189 | 217 | 764 | ..... |
| 17th Virginia Cavalry *b h* | 31 | 332 | 332 | 406 | 580 | ..... |
| 22d Virginia Cavalry | 25 | 308 | 308 | 375 | 798 | ..... |
| 37th Virginia Battalion Cavalry, Company H *d* | 4 | 58 | 58 | 69 | 108 | ..... |
| Total cavalry | 210 | 2,219 | 2,219 | 2,669 | 5,087 | ..... |

*a* Ten captured. Amick's company (aggregate 65) now first reported.
*b* Taken from return of 10th instant; none received since. Jackson's command is on a move and can furnish no return.
*c* Three officers and 34 enlisted men prisoners of war.
*d* Taken from return of 31st ultimo; none received since.
*e* Five officers and 201 enlisted men prisoners of war. Forty-seventh Virginia Battalion Cavalry (aggregate 315) now first reported.
*f* Twenty-nine captured.
*g* Five officers and 74 enlisted men absent in arrest.
*h* One officer and 37 enlisted men prisoners of war, and 2 officers and 3 enlisted men absent in arrest.

*Abstract from return of the Army and Department of Western Virginia, &c*—Cont'd.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| Chapman's (Virginia) battery | 4 | 125 | 125 | 135 | 159 | 6 |
| Bryan's (Virginia) battery *a* | 4 | 128 | 128 | 149 | 158 | 6 |
| Burroughs' (Tennessee) battery | 2 | 40 | 40 | 43 | 86 | ..... |
| McClung's (Tennessee) battery | 4 | 47 | 47 | 53 | 60 | ..... |
| Lurty's (Virginia) battery *a c* | 4 | 57 | 57 | 62 | 95 | ..... |
| Botetourt (Virginia) Artillery *b* | 5 | 104 | 104 | 116 | 152 | 6 |
| Jackson's (Virginia) Horse Artillery | 5 | 78 | 78 | 83 | 90 | 4 |
| Total artillery | 23 | 579 | 579 | 641 | 800 | 22 |
| Grand total | 500 | 6,622 | 6,622 | 7,777 | 11,631 | 22 |

*a* Taken from return of 10th instant; none received since. Jackson's command is on a move and can furnish no return.
*b* Eight enlisted men prisoners of war.
*c* Taken from return of 31st ultimo; none received since.

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*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey, C. S. Army, commanding, April* 20, 1864; *headquarters Richmond, Va.**

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of field artillery. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | |
| General staff | 9 | ..... | ..... | 9 | 11 | ..... |
| Richmond Defenses | 90 | 1,444 | 1,583 | 1,822 | 2,216 | ..... |
| Hunton's brigade | 112 | 1,573 | 1,556 | 1,992 | 2,951 | ..... |
| Chaffin's Bluff | 20 | 331 | 418 | 483 | 559 | ..... |
| Drewry's Bluff | 18 | 335 | 406 | 445 | 506 | ..... |
| 2d Maryland Infantry | 21 | 285 | 285 | 365 | 466 | ..... |
| Barton's brigade | 78 | 1,493 | 1,493 | 1,789 | 3,181 | ..... |
| Total | 339 | 5,461 | 5,741 | 6,896 | 9,879 | ..... |
| Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion Cavalry | 15 | 201 | 199 | 285 | 397 | ..... |
| 42d Virginia Battalion Cavalry | 15 | 222 | 218 | 293 | 651 | ..... |
| 1st Maryland Cavalry | 18 | 294 | 294 | 338 | 591 | ..... |
| Total | 48 | 717 | 711 | 916 | 1,639 | ..... |
| 2d Maryland Artillery | 4 | 66 | 66 | 80 | 104 | 4 |
| Lightfoot's battalion | 12 | 302 | 323 | 354 | 393 | 14 |
| Stark's battalion | 8 | 202 | 200 | 227 | 266 | 8 |
| Cooper's (Virginia) battery | 5 | 92 | 92 | 105 | 127 | 4 |
| Total | 29 | 662 | 681 | 766 | 890 | 30 |
| Grand total | 425 | 6,840 | 7,133 | 8,587 | 12,419 | 30 |

* Organization the same as that for March 31, 1864, except in Hunton's brigade, Twenty-eighth Virginia Regiment, Captain Wingfield, is left out, and Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott, substituted in its place.

*Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Henrico, Va., Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, C. S. Army, commanding, April 20, 1864; headquarters Richmond, Va.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Absent, prisoners. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | | Officers. | Men. |
| City Guard Forces | 22 | 579 | 579 | 659 | 910 | 7 | 59 |
| Camp Lee | 14 | 118 | 81 | 139 | 2,130 | ..... | ..... |
| C. S. military prisons, Danville, Va | 28 | 478 | 519 | 585 | 708 | 3 | 18 |
| Total | 64 | 1,175 | 1,179 | 1,383 | 3,748 | 10 | 77 |

*Troops in the Department of Henrico, Va., Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, C. S. Army, commanding, April 20, 1864.*

*City Guard Forces.*

Col. WILLIAM WATTS.

18th Virginia, Company C.
28th Virginia.
Camp Winder guard.
Captain Braxton's company.

*Camp Lee.*

Col. J. C. SHIELDS.

Confederate Guard.
Paroled and exchanged prisoners.
Post band.

*Prison Guard Forces, Danville, Va.*

Maj. MASON MORFIT.

32d North Carolina, Company C.
45th North Carolina, Companies D and G.
53d North Carolina, Company C.
3d Virginia, Company D.
18th Virginia, Company G.
28th Virginia, Company I.
Hargrove Blues.

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*Abstract from return of the Department of the Cape Fear, Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding, April 20, 1864; headquarters Wilmington, N. C.*

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| General staff | 10 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 14 |
| Post of Wilmington | 12 | ..... | ..... | 12 | 12 |
| 50th Regiment, Martin's brigade[a] | 31 | 653 | 673 | 754 | 930 |
| Engineer troops | 2 | 26 | 76 | 87 | 103 |
| Signal corps | 1 | 42 | 42 | 43 | 57 |
| Heavy artillery | 119 | 2,298 | 2,956 | 3,310 | 4,151 |
| Cavalry | 31 | 412 | 441 | 501 | 676 |
| Light artillery | 35 | 770 | 797 | 874 | 983 |
| Total | 241 | 4,203 | 4,987 | 5,593 | 6,926 |

[a] The Seventeenth, Forty-second, and Sixty-sixth North Carolina Troops, of Martin's brigade, with an aggregate of 3,075, ordered to Weldon, N. C.

*Organization of troops in the Department of the Cape Fear, commanded by Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, April 20, 1864.*

*Infantry.*

50th North Carolina, Col. George Wortham.

*Cavalry.*

7th Confederate (two companies).
3d North Carolina (detachment).
5th South Carolina (two companies).

*Heavy Artillery.*

Fort Caswell, Col. T. M. Jones.
Fort Fisher, Col. William Lamb.
Forts Holmes and Pender, Col. John J. Hedrick.
Wilmington, Col. George A. Cunningham.

*Light Artillery.*

3d North Carolina Battalion, Company A, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis.
3d North Carolina Battalion, Company B, Capt. William Badham, jr.
13th North Carolina Battalion, Battery D, Capt. Zachariah T. Adams.
Southerland's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Thomas J. Southerland.
Staunton Hill (Virginia) Battery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.
Webb's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Lewis H. Webb.
Young's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Edward R. Young.

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*Abstract from statement of "local defenses, special service," in Richmond, on duty in Government Departments and Bureaus, April 21, 1864.*

| Battalions. | Department. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | War. | Treasury. | Navy. | Postmaster-General's. |
| Departmental | 256 | 311 | ..... | 77 |
| Quartermaster's | 449 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Arsenal | 559 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Armory | 441 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Naval | ..... | ..... | 633 | ..... |
| Tredegar | 249 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total | 1,954 | 311 | 633 | 77 |

WYTHEVILLE, *April* 21, 1864.

Major STRINGFELLOW:

Your dispatch received. Telegraph General Echols and McCausland of reported preparation of enemy. They must be ready to move any moment. I will return in the morning.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE.

HEADQUARTERS,
*April* 21, 1864. (Received 22d.)

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Your dispatch received. I am in a very bad way to move anywhere, as you will see by my letter of to-day. Major McKendree started to Dublin this evening to see what is the matter, but I will order him back to-night. I have but two days' rations on hand and one train on the road. I have this moment received a dispatch from the front, saying that the enemy were moving over Sewell Mountain; only 300 seen by the scouts, but a larger force supposed to be coming.

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*April* 21, 1864.

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I herewith inclose to you, for the information of the major-general commanding, a copy of a dispatch received this morning from Col. William L. Jackson,

I am, major, very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS,
*Warm Springs, Va., April* 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN ECHOLS,
*Commanding:*

GENERAL: Captain Marshall reports that the enemy at Beverly are preparing for a move. He is unable to report the force there. I learn from other sources that nearly all the force in Northwestern Virginia is at Beverly, on the railroad toward the eastern part, and in the Kanawha Valley. The garrrison at Bulltown numbers not more than 100, and there is no force between that and Parkersburg. At the latter place there is not more than one company. The force there recently (one regiment) has gone to Beverly. About ten days since a regiment arrived at Parkersburg from the West, but returned the next day for some cause. I am of the opinion, from all I can learn, that the enemy either intend a raid or are preparing to resist one. If they come I do not think they will move for eight or ten days, on account of the unsettled state of the weather. Forage is scarce in Northwest Virginia, owing to the failure of the crops last year. On account of the war the people raised but little in Barbour, Tucker, Upshur, Lewis, Gilmer, Calhoun, Braxton, Webster, Randolph, &c. There is no forage from here to Parkersburg. If the raid is on this line before grass, horses must suffer. Ten days of good weather will make good grass. Large amount of flour is passing over the railroads from the West for the Army of the Potomac. Recruits from Ritchie County report that there has been troops sent from Bulltown, Buckhannon, and Weston to the Kanawha Valley, but they did not give the numbers. There were but few companies

at those points. They also report that some companies of Jenkins' brigade had been in Guyandotte and occasioned considerable alarm and some movements of troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. L. JACKSON,
*Colonel.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Orange Court-House, April 22, 1864.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Commanding Armies of Confederate States:*

GENERAL: Colonel Beale, Ninth Virginia Cavalry, who has been operating on the lower Rappahannock and in the Northern Neck of Virginia, reports that he has positive and certain information that no steamers or tow-boats of any kind are in Saint Mary's River. The negro regiment recently in Westmoreland, which came from Leonardtown, has been sent to the front; destination unknown. It is certain that a large number of vessels are going down the bay and his scouts think that troops are going to the Peninsula.

I am profoundly grateful to the Giver of all Victory for our success in North Carolina. I trust it may continue, and that the end may be as favorable as the beginning. I desire Hoke's brigade to be sent to me as soon as practicable. Early's division is very weak, consisting of two brigades and a part, two of its regiments having been detached with Hoke. Colonel Mercer, commanding one, I regret to learn, is killed. General Imboden reports that the Sixth Corps (Sedgwick's old corps) arrived in Martinsburg on the 17th. I think it erroneous. No movement has yet been made by General Meade, but his army is reported ready packed and equipped. The roads and ground are now in good condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

---

APRIL 22, 1864.

Col. W. H. STEVENS,
*Chief of Construction, &c., Dept. of Northern Va.:*

COLONEL: I am directed by the honorable Secretary of War to request you to cause to be examined and reported upon by a competent engineer officer, as promptly as possible, the fords in the James River as far as Columbia, with a view to ascertaining their character, whether easy or difficult, and erecting (should it be deemed judicious) small and compact defensive works, sufficient to enable a small body of troops to resist the passage of a large raiding party.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. L. RIVES,
*Colonel, &c.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, N. C., April 22, 1864.*

His Excellency Governor VANCE, *Raleigh:*

SIR: Last night the enemy landed at the State salt-works and destroyed one of them, taking off a number of the conscripts. I do

not regret it. I consider that the whole affair was done with the complicity and on the information of parties engaged there. The enemy undoubtedly were made aware of the withdrawal of Martin's brigade. The establishment has long been a nuisance, and the circumstantial evidence of their intercourse with the enemy is very strong, and, combined with the known character of many of the conscripts, is sufficient to induce me to remove what the enemy have spared. In this connection I respectfully refer to my letter of 22d ultimo to you. If the works are regarded as indispensable to the State, it will be necessary to remove them to the Cape Fear River. No more salt-works will be permitted on Masonborough Sound. The enemy left a number of letters to be distributed.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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WILMINGTON, N. C., *April* 22, 1864.

His Excellency Governor Z. B. VANCE,
*Raleigh, N. C.:*

DEAR SIR: The enemy landed at one of the State salt-works on Masonborough Sound last night in force estimated at 100 to 150 men. They were not discovered till within 50 yards of the works. Immediately on landing they made prisoners of every one they could, and set fire to the works. They attempted to destroy the pans by throwing shells into the furnaces. They did but little damage in this way, not breaking a pan, and displacing but one. The sheds over the works, being dampened by the steam from the boiling-pans, burned slowly, and were soon extinguished after departure of the enemy. The chief damage done was to the steam-pump and engine. They are badly damaged, and it will take some time to repair them and get them in position again. If I could pump water to-day two-thirds of the works could be run. The blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop, and tools and stables were entirely consumed. Mules and horses were not injured. Forty-seven men were missing this morning; of this number but one, so far as I can learn, is even suspected of having willingly gone. I mention this latter fact for the reason that I learn it is rumored, and I understand believed by the commanding general, that they were glad of the chance to go. I have just returned from the works, and have thoroughly inquired into the matter, and am fully convinced that they were forced to go. I may be misinformed. The landing was so sudden and unlooked for that the alarm could not be given in time for the men to escape. Some of those who did escape were fired on.

I inclose communications* from General Whiting, received during my absence to-day. I have not been able to see him since my return. If I am required to comply with this direction it will be equivalent to putting a stop to the works. It is impossible, with the means at my command, to move and run the works on the Cape Fear to advantage. The experience I have already had in boating water satisfies me that it will not do to make salt on a large scale on the Cape Fear River. The flats I have built, and one now build-

* Not found.

ing, for carrying wood through the sound to the works, are working to my satisfaction, and will enable me to dispense with a large number of my teams and diminish the cost of the salt. My opinion is that it would be better to entirely discontinue the works rather that move them to the Cape Fear River. What shall I do?

Your obedient servant,

D. E. WORTH,
*Salt Commissioner.*

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, N. C., April 22, 1864.*

Col. J. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Richmond:*

COLONEL: I have received the order consolidating my command and that of General Pickett, under General Beauregard. Was it not an error to say, "District of Cape Fear?" I commanded the Department of Cape Fear.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., April 22, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Commanding, Dublin, Va.:*

GENERAL: The President directs me to inform you of substance of a letter received from a friend in Baltimore, believed to be true and reliable, so far as he knows what he writes of. You will take it for what it is worth, and endeavor to ascertain the truth of it. The main point of his letter is the concentration of Grant's forces for a grand movement on General Lee. Among other statements he says:

General Ord and other good commanders have been brought to Washington from West, and Ord was expected to move from Harper's Ferry down the great valley, but as Averell's cavalry have all gone to the Ohio River for some raiding operations from the Great Kanawha River, probably to prevent use of Virginia and Tennessee road, for re-enforcing Lee, and no fresh troops are gathering about the head of the valley at all, it is doubtless not intended to move that way. Some think he (Grant) may trust his cavalry to destroy road at Junction, and move his main army to east of Gordonsville, but this is doubtful. *Averell is likely to play an important part.*

He mentions movement of Ninth Army Corps from Kentucky; also says, "Averell will be at mouth of Kanawha probably by 12th or 14th, but not *before 10th possibly*"—underscoring his own. The President also hears from other sources that there has been some concentration of troops in Kentucky. Your information on this point should be better than his. Your accurately ascertaining the probable value of these statements is important.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. PRESTON JOHNSTON,
*Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.*

HEADQUARTERS, *April* 22, 1864.

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Dispatch just received from officer in command of outpost says that enemy were engaged yesterday evening in building a bridge and chopping out the blockade. Supposed to be a regiment at work, and guarding the workmen. My train will get in this morning.

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MOUNT CRAWFORD, *April* 22, 1864.

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE:

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last Averell's whole command, men and horses, passed Cumberland and New Creek on the cars bound westward. Milroy in person has gone west, supposed to take command at Grafton. There is a large force of infantry and artillery to my front at Martinsburg. I have a regiment at Franklin, obstructing road to Monterey.

J. D IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 94. } *Richmond, April* 22, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXX. The Fifty-ninth Regiment North Carolina Troops (Fourth Cavalry), Col. D. D. Ferebee, is detached from Brig. Gen. James B. Gordon's brigade. Colonel Ferebee will report to General Beauregard, commanding, &c., Weldon, N. C., for duty.

The Third Regiment North Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Baker, will immediately proceed by highway to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to General J. B. Gordon's brigade.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 23, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

Mr. PRESIDENT: Notwithstanding the numerous reports received of the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps having come east, I do not think it certain. I have had very direct intelligence of the passage of the Ninth Corps over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad about the last of March and 1st of April, and of the transportation of troops from the West to the East since, but I cannot identify any particular corps, so many numbers are given. The Eleventh and Twelfth, now Twentieth, may have passed over the Pennsylvania routes, but from an order reported in the Chattanooga paper of the 6th April it would seem that that corps was then in Tennessee. I do not think it has

joined the Army of the Potomac. Two corps are said to be with Burnside, and the Twentieth may be one. I have sent a man there to see. There has been some movement of the troops on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad recently. They have gone westward, some report to New Creek, others to Grafton. Averell himself, with his cavalry and some infantry, marched on the road to Romney. His destination is probably Petersburg, whence he may make another expedition. Only one regiment of infantry and two squadrons of cavalry are said to be at Harper's Ferry, and a sufficient garrison at Martinsburg. Their picket-line is drawn close to the railroad. I have warned Generals Breckinridge and Imboden. I am very anxious to get Hoke's and Johnston's brigades back. Their divisions, Early's, and Rodes', are much weakened by their absence. I am holding Longstreet for the present near Cobham till his troops shall all arrive, and until I can ascertain where he will be most required.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. E. B. STUART,
*Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to inform you that, in view of the reports of your scouts and those of General Imboden, he is disposed to believe that Averell contemplates making another expedition, either to Staunton or the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, simultaneously with the general movement of the Federal army. The reduction of the enemy's force on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, in the lower valley, has induced the general to direct General Imboden, if he finds it practicable, to endeavor to anticipate the movement of Averell and disconcert his plans by a demonstration against the railroad and the force guarding it in Martinsburg and the lower valley. Should General Imboden attempt this, General Lee thinks that his end might be promoted by the co-operation of Colonel Mosby, and he directs that you will notify the latter to communicate with General Imboden and, if possible, arrange some plan for a combined movement. Great care should be taken to prevent your letter to Mosby from falling into the hands of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MARSHALL,
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.*

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WELDON, N. C., *April* 23, 1864.

Pursuant to instructions from the War Department, I assume command of the Departments of North Carolina and the Cape Fear. The two departments thus consolidated will be known as the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, and will embrace that portion of the State of North Carolina east of the mountains and that section of the State of Virginia south of the James and Appo-

mattox Rivers. A prompt obedience of orders, a mutual good understanding, and a cordial support of one another are enjoined on both officers and men as indispensable to success. Violations of regulations and orders must be promptly reported in order that discipline, so necessary, may be maintained.

The personal and general staff of the department for the present are announced as follows:

PERSONAL STAFF.

First Lieut. A. R. Chisolm, aide-de-camp.
First Lieut. A. J. Toutant, acting aide-de-camp.

GENERAL STAFF.

Capt. John M. Otey, assistant adjutant-general, in charge adjutant-general's department.
Capt. Albert Ferry, assistant adjutant-general.
Maj. Henry Bryan, assistant adjutant-general, inspector.
Maj. Giles B. Cooke, assistant adjutant-general, inspector.
Col. D. B. Harris, chief of engineer's department.
Maj. E. Willis, chief quartermaster.
Maj. F. Molloy, chief of subsistence.
Surg. S. Choppin, medical inspector.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*General, Commanding.*

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MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C., *April* 23, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: Allow me to represent to you the extreme importance of the most active military operations in Eastern North Carolina.

Plymouth having fallen by the aid of the Confederate gun-boats built on the Roanoke, Washington, Roanoke Island, and New Berne may be speedily recovered, and the enemy be driven from Eastern North Carolina.

The counties now held by the Yankees in this State would furnish vast supplies of corn and much meat for subsistence of our army in Virginia, and if our gun-boats from the Roanoke, Tar, and Neuse Rivers shall be able to maintain possession of the sound, those supplies would be readily transportable to Tarborough and Weldon or Halifax, and thence to Richmond.

It seems now doubtful whether Grant intends an advance soon on Richmond. If not, could not a portion of the Virginia army be detached in a column sufficiently strong to insure the capture of Washington and New Berne, by co-operating with present command of Brigadier-General Hoke? Celerity of movements, after the style of Napoleon in Italy or Stonewall Jackson in the Valley of Virginia, would insure just now the redemption of Eastern North Carolina from Yankee oppression and secure the defeat of the traitorous Holden party, now resisting the re-election of Governor Vance. The recovery of Eastern North Carolina is in every point of view of vast moment, and in none more than with reference to the support of our Virginia army. By prompt concentration of forces and

by bold and rapid movements the prize can most surely be secured. Let a feint be made on Washington, and an overwhelming force be suddenly precipitated on New Berne, or vice versa, and success will be almost certain. The force massed for these purposes should be overwhelming, if possible, so as to insure victory. The troops sent from Virginia might accomplish the proposed work by great celerity of movement and return to Virginia before needed there, unless Grant should advance more promptly than now seems probable.

The moral and political effect at the North of the expulsion of the Yankees from North Carolina would be incalculable and would be immediately demonstrated in its influence on the gold market in New York. Now is the accepted time for a bold, sudden stroke, and every Yankee soldier in North Carolina would be slain, captured, or compelled to flee the State. Postpone the effort and the golden opportunity will be lost. Let there be no rest until the State of North Carolina is "redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled." It can be done; only strike heavily and strike quickly.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your very obedient servant,

C. L. BURGWIN.

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 23, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW:

The enemy, after removing the blockade entirely, have returned. There was not more than one regiment. There is no boat in the river at Bowyer's Ferry. I wrote you on yesterday. For last two weeks large quantities of forage and other supplies have been taken to Fayette Court-House, as I am informed.

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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APRIL 24, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
*Weldon:*

Scouts report large transport moving west about New River. Am sure the enemy know my condition. Troops reported sent from New Berne to Morehead City. Seventeenth [North Carolina] has gone as guard. Can you send anything to help?

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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APRIL 24, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD:

Can't you send me two regiments? The Fiftieth [North Carolina] is very small, and necessarily greatly scattered. The enemy are certainly fully acquainted with my position, and their movements show it. I ought to have re-enforcements to-night.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

APRIL 24, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
*Weldon, N. C.:*

Large transport reported hovering about Masonborough filled with troops.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,
*Wilmington, N. C., April 24, 1864.*

General BEAUREGARD,
*Weldon, N. C.:*

A double-ender gun-boat has joined the fleet. Have ordered Hébert here. Will come as soon as possible. General Walker went to Goldsborough this morning. Better let some troops move here as soon as possible. I have ordered Colonel Jackson from Kenansville, leaving Major Moore there, temporarily detaining Hampton's two companies of cavalry.

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, April 24, 1864.*

Brigadier-General ECHOLS,
*Commanding First Brigade, Monroe County, Va.:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 22d instant was received, and I sent you a dispatch last evening. I have also seen a communication from your quartermaster and your accompanying letter.

With our small forces and extended territory we are much embarrassed, but on the whole, unless some sudden emergency makes it necessary, it will be imprudent to separate the troops too far; hence, if there should be a regular advance of the enemy in force too strong for you, you should, if possible, retire toward McCausland, who would advance at once. It will not be necessary to fall back from a raiding party. Keep your scouts and Jackson's constantly as far to the front as possible to give timely and accurate notice. I am anxious to know the exact force at Beverly. Averell passed Cumberland the other day westward with his command. Jackson should look to the depot and the two bridges, and keep up communication with Imboden.

Jenkins will soon have a respectable force near you. It has been impossible to change the location of the Forty-fifth [Virginia]. I had given orders for Carr's company to be sent to Edgar, Bosang's taking its place, when by orders from Richmond nearly all the men will be lost to the latter company. One company is necessary here. Major Dorman hopes to be able to furnish me one very soon, when Carr's company will be ordered forward at once.

In the matter of subsistence and forage I am making every effort. But for the troubles on this score I should have been with the troops before this time. I have ordered long since ten days' supplies to be kept with the troops. In regard to breadstuffs and forage, great difficulties have existed, but I am sure you must have a good

supply of meat. Nothing can be sent nearer to you than the Narrows and Jackson's River Depot, nor is it possible to furnish more transportation. Your last return shows a large quantity. I hope the grass will soon improve the condition of the stock. Would it not be best to send the unserviceable wagons and stock to the rear as soon as practicable?

I have directed every effort to be made to supply your wants. I know your difficulties. Mean time we must be as economical as possible. The quartermaster and assistant commissary of subsistence should look closely into their departments. Unless the quartermaster has a competent set of wagon-masters, who attend strictly to their duties, not even grain and hay can keep up the stock.

I hope to see you soon.

Yours, truly,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 25, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d instant, with reference to detailing men from this army.

I have no doubt that the reasons assigned by you will account to some extent for the fact of the excess of details from this over those from other armies. There is, however, another circumstance to which I think it worth while to call your attention, from which I think the applications for men in our ranks in some measure proceeds. I refer to the assignment to local duties of officers who reside at or near the place where those duties are to be performed. I have known instances of officers so assigned, when they required assistance, making application for the detail of men from the same neighborhood, friends or relatives perhaps, when it appeared to me that the aid required might easily have been obtained in some other way.

This army being composed of men from nearly every State, the number of calls upon it for details is, I think, much increased in this way, as there is scarcely an officer assigned to local duty anywhere that requires assistance who cannot find some friend or neighbor among our soldiers whom he can oblige by restoring to his home. Even when the officers are not so disposed themselves they are operated upon by the solicitation of friends.

To prevent this I would respectfully suggest that when it is practicable officers should be selected for local service of the kind that is likely to require details from among those who are not residents of the place where that service is to be performed.

I think that the observance of this rule will not only relieve this army and all others to some extent, but secure a stricter attention to duty on the part of the officers themselves, who will be free from the temptation to neglect their business to which those are exposed whose families and friends reside at the place of their assignment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

RICHMOND, *April* 25, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: Please order Gracie's brigade from Buckner's department to Richmond, and Colquitt's from South Carolina and Georgia to Wilmington. Order by telegraph, and troops to move by rail.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
*General.*

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[APRIL 25?, 1864.]

Major-General ELZEY:

One of my men has just come in. Left Frederick Monday night; crossed Potomac north of Shepherdstown Tuesday night; passed over Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, a mile from Kearneysville, Wednesday night. The Government had possession of the railroad all the previous week and were moving troops up the railroad beyond Martinsburg all the week—infantry and artillery. They stated they were going to make a raid up the Kanawha Valley. No troops at Frederick, along the railroad, nor at Martinsburg, except guard for railroad.

Your obedient servant,

BRADLEY T. JOHNSON.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 96. } *Richmond, Va., April* 25, 1864.

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XVIII. Brig. Gen. G. C. Wharton, with the troops under his command (the Fifty-first Regiment and the Thirtieth Battalion Virginia Volunteers), will proceed by railroad to Dublin Depot, Va., and report for duty to Maj. Gen. J. C. Breckinridge, commanding, &c.

* * * * * * *

XXXII. Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, jr., is assigned to the command of the Department of Richmond, and will relieve Maj. Gen. A. Elzey. The latter, on being relieved, will repair to Staunton, where he will establish his headquarters as commander of the Maryland Line.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 26, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: General Nicholls, commanding at Lynchburg, seems to find some difficulty with regard to the command of the reserves in the counties adjacent to that post. It is important that the question of

command should be settled as soon as they are organized, so that there may be no difficulty or dispute on the subject when they are called into active service, should the emergency arise.

There should be one commander to see to their arms and equipments, and to have any which can be spared for distribution properly kept in arsenals and to make arrangements for the rendezvous, &c., in the different counties. I think the matter might be so arranged as to avoid any collision between the State and Confederate authorities.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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RICHMOND, *April* 26, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE,

*Comdg. Army of Northern Va., near Orange Court-House:*

GENERAL: Immediately upon the receipt of your note of the 19th instant instructions were given to the depot officer at this point to forward, as promptly as possible, as many shirts and drawers as your army may require. There is a large excess of these articles on hand at every clothing depot, and the only reason why so few were sent up to the Army of Northern Virginia during the quarter just closed is that Captain Janney requested Major Bentley, the forwarding officer, not to send any more, saying he had enough. When Colonel Corley was here a few weeks ago, it was suggested that as spring was about to set in the health and comfort of the men might be promoted by a liberal issue of these under-garments. He assented thereto and promised to indicate by letter at an early date the number he would require. I was still in expectation of receiving that, when your note came to hand.

A. R. LAWTON,
*Quartermaster-General.*

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GATLIN BATTERY, *April* 26, 1864.

Colonel LAMB:

SIR: According to instructions received, I have made a thorough investigation of the sound from Masonborough Inlet to Gatlin Battery, finding only one place that might be called a ford. This one is between Montgomery's salt-works and the State works, or between 400 and 500 yards northeast of Montgomery's. The main is marked by a cross 8 feet high, with the outer arm pointing in the direction of the shallowest water. After following this for 20 yards it turns diagonally across the sound, the outer arm pointing in the proper direction. This continues until you reach the marsh on the side next to the beach, the point marked on the edge of the marsh by a cross-stake. The water in its deepest place is about 2½ feet at low tide; allow from 1½ to 1 foot and 8 inches for the rise of the common high tide; to-day it raised only about 11 inches above the low-water mark. Bottom across, gravel. The marsh is very good—hard; that is, if the main creek be kept as close as possible. There are one or two ponds and creeks, which I think can be passed without trouble; the rest of the road is hard, and can be used except at very high tides. The distance from Masonborough Inlet to this place is about 4½

miles, and is better marked by Craig's house on the mainland and Craig's pole on the beach (the second high pole from Gatlin Battery). Cavalry companies could cross this place at any time.

Respectfully submitted.

E. B. DUDLEY,
*Captain Company D, Thirty-sixth North Carolina Troops.*

P. S.—Should you wish to send any artillery across there, I would like to send the pilot I had with me (one of my men).

E. B. D.

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Order Hagood's brigade instead of Colquitt's, as suggested.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, April* 27, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD, *Commanding, &c., Weldon:*

MY DEAR GENERAL: In accordance with your orders, transmitted yesterday from General Bragg, I have sent the Fiftieth [North Carolina] Regiment to Rocky Mount, there to telegraph you as to its farther destination.

With regard to the Yankee prisoners, the agents, commissary, or quartermaster should notify my people of the movement of the trains, that I may make ready. One train arrived to-day without notice and without provisions. Please send on the negroes for my works as soon as possible. Burnside's attack must either be here or at Weldon or at Petersburg; I think the latter. If in your power, concentrate at once. Either point is vital to our defense of Richmond. To save any point, everything we have must be put on one line of communication until the point of attack is determined. I know your views on this matter. Push them if you can. Any attack now on the separate posts of the enemy involving a dispersion of our forces seems to me a military blunder of the worst kind. If concentrated, we settle Burnside. I will guarantee that in ten or twenty days we clear North Carolina.

Yours, truly,

WHITING.

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APRIL 27, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD, *Weldon:*

If you think proper, send the following dispatch to General Bragg from me:

"Gun-boat on Neuse hopelessly fixed. Whatever be the point of Burnside's attack, Petersburg, Weldon, or this place (I think the former), I hope no time will be lost in concentrating all troops available on line of Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. After settling him we can clear the frontier of North Carolina in a fortnight."

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS, *Wilmington, April 27, 1864.*

General BEAUREGARD, *Commanding, &c., Weldon:*

MY DEAR GENERAL: Arrived all safe. Things quiet so far. Enemy sounding off Masonborough and Wrightsville yesterday and this morning, but driven off by one of my Whitworths.

I sent you dispatch to-day to forward to Bragg if you think fit. Every little helps to the great object, and as I have been invited by him to correspond freely and give my views, there will no doubt be no impropriety in my hinting by telegraph at a matter of so vital importance as the immediate and rapid concentration of our forces, especially as I know this is your especial wish at this time. I telegraphed Corse as I was coming down, and he informed me last night that the gun-boat was hopelessly fixed. I verified this by observation of the condition of the river. Represent this to the Department. If you require me in the field when you have your troops together, and circumstances will permit my leaving here, I hope you will let me have Martin, Ransom, and Clingman; if you have twelve brigades add Walker's. All these people have been with me, and I believe are friendly. Try and get Law in your command. He was of the Fourth Alabama, and succeeded to command of my old Third Brigade; a most capital officer, and one of the best men in battle I ever saw. He is from South Carolina, and now with Longstreet, but in difficulty with him and wants to come to me.

Yours, truly,

W. H. C. WHITING.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CAPE FEAR,
*Wilmington, N. C., April 27, 1864.*

(Memorandum for General Beauregard.)

Defenses of the Cape Fear:

First. Brigadier-General Hébert is charged with the command of the forts for defense of the harbor and guarding the beach on the east and west of the entrances. His troops occupy positions from South Carolina line to Masonborough Inlet, and consist entirely of heavy and light artillery. The three main positions are Oak Island, at the west entrance, Smith's Island, between the two, and Confederate Point, the east entrance or New Inlet. On Oak Island the defenses are Fort Caswell and its advanced work, Fort Campbell, distant a mile apart, and midway between the two Battery Shaw. Fort Campbell is arranged for defense against both land and sea attack.

Second. On Smith's Island, a very important position, are Fort Holmes, a line of field-works from Fort Holmes to Light-House Creek, and various batteries in course of construction.

Third. Confederate Point comprises the various batteries known as Fort Fisher. They extend for a mile and require a strong garrison and a supporting force. When able to furnish this it has been stationed near the head of the sound, where Gatlin Battery is. In northwest winds it is feasible to land anywhere along the beach between Confederate Point and Masonborough Inlet. The garrison of Oak Island and Fort Fisher picket the coast from the latter point (Masonborough Inlet) to South Carolina line or Little River. For the security of the blockade runners great activity and vigilance is required.

Fourth. Smithville is the depot of the forts, headquarters of General Hébert, and contains heavy batteries bearing on the harbor and channel. Its garrison should be much stronger and a heavy infantry force ought always to be maintained within striking distance to operate against an attack by way of Lockwood's Folly and Shallotte. There is no support there now.

Fifth. The officer commanding the infantry force of the department has always reported directly to the major-general commanding, and not charged with the defense of the land approaches of the city, the exterior lines. This force, to prevent surprise and insure security, should never be less than a brigade. The command is for a brigadier-general. The exterior lines are Virginia Creek, 23 miles distant, on the old New Berne road, the left resting on Holly Shelter Swamp, the right opposite New Topsail Inlet, an important inlet on the coast; Harrison's lines, 10 miles nearer to the city; Sterne's lines, 15 miles on the Holly Shelter road, and two positions, one 40 and one 20 miles on the same road. The latter are important as against a cavalry raid to cut the railroad at Northeast, where is a long and costly bridge. The supporting force should guard the coast of the mainland on the sounds from the head of the sound to Virginia Creek and be posted so as to aid Fort Fisher in case of surprise. It should be sufficiently large to furnish a strong detachment to operate on the west side of the Cape Fear River.

Sixth. The post of Kenansville is important, as the best point whence to protect the railroad and the headquarters of the lines of pickets, which, from Swansborough, on White Oak River, to Kenansville, in connection with the pickets from Kinston, watch the movements of the enemy. The few on this duty furnish also the line of couriers from Jacksonville and Swansborough to Virginia Creek. The withdrawal of cavalry from this service is a serious evil to us. While the enemy hold New Berne the railroad cannot be secure, unless we occupy Kinston and Kenansville in sufficient force to oppose cavalry attacks.

Seventh. This department has heretofore comprised the counties bordering on the Cape Fear and its branches to the South Carolina line, including Onslow, Duplin, and Sampson, extending to Warsaw, N. C., on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad.

Eighth. The maps will show that the enemy can attack above or below the harbor, moving directly on the city. Necessarily this movement would turn the harbor defenses, and if successful compel their surrender. There is no time, then, at which a place so important should be stripped of its supporting force.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
*Major-General.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, Va., April 27,* 1864.

Col. JOHN WITHERS,
*In Charge of Office of Orders:*

COLONEL: The following-named troops have been moved by telegraph: Gracie's brigade from East Tennessee to Richmond; Hagood's brigade from Charleston to Wilmington; Fifty-fourth Ala-

bama Regiment, doing provost duty at Montgomery, to Army of Tennessee, for assignment to Baker's (Alabama) brigade; the Sixty-third Georgia Regiment, previously ordered to Virginia, to Dalton, in place of First Georgia Regiment; the Sixty-fourth Georgia to Army of Northern Virginia, in place of Sixty-third Georgia.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN W. RIELY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
*Weldon, N. C., April 27,* 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: As the instructions referred to in your telegram of the 16th instant, directing me to assume command at this point, were not awaiting me here, as advised, nor have yet been received, I have the honor to request that copies of the same be furnished me with the least delay practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*General, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*May* 2, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Bragg.

The Adjutant and Inspector General believes that General Bragg has already given the instructions to which this letter relates.

By order of the Adjutant and Inspector General:

H. L. CLAY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
*May* 9, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Adjutant-General.

On General Beauregard's arrival at Weldon he was met by one of my staff officers, who carried a written memorandum for his guidance in a conference with the general. This conference covered all points of interest and importance in the department, and was intended to put the general more fully in possession of the views of the Government and of the state of affairs in his department than could any written communication.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
*General.*

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *April 27,* 1864.

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

General Imboden reports General Averell in command of troops in vicinity of New Creek. He cannot, therefore, as reported, have gone to Kanawha. General Imboden will keep you advised.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin Depot, April 27*, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the condition of my command continues to improve, although I have still to encounter many difficulties.

The infantry may be said to be respectably armed. The cavalry was hardly armed at all, but it is now nearly supplied, though of various calibers, and not of the best. Requisitions for arms and ammunition do not receive prompt attention, owing, I presume, to the great demands elsewhere.

My predecessor found it necessary to dismount the cavalry and send the horses to the rear from the impossibility of obtaining forage. Nearly all the grain has been taken from this department, and in some localities many families, especially those of soldiers, are in actual suffering. I am compelled to draw largely on the little grain in hands of my quartermaster to furnish meal for the troops, and it is with difficulty they can be kept rationed with breadstuffs. Most of the country in front is absolutely destitute. In a few days the grass (which is very late) may subsist the horses. Orders have been issued to collect them at once.

Having stopped furloughs, my last report forwarded shows a gratifying increase of effectives.

Echols' brigade is on the south side of Greenbrier River, about 7 miles from Lewisburg; Colonel McCausland's brigade at the Narrows of New River and Princeton, in Mercer County. Col. W. L. Jackson is covering the country south of the Warm Springs with about 1,000 cavalry (dismounted), and with mounted scouts thrown forward to Huntersville and toward Beverly. I have a little cavalry in Tazewell County, to cover one of the approaches to Wytheville and the lead mines, and a large regiment and fourteen pieces of tolerable artillery at Saltville. A portion of General Buckner's troops are also near the latter point.

I propose to assemble General Jenkins' cavalry, which should be over 1,500 strong, in Monroe and Greenbrier. I have a good six-gun battery with each infantry brigade. Jenkins will have a battery of four guns (horse artillery), and Colonel Jackson has three guns, but is not fully equipped.

The enemy had, on the 1st of April, between Fayetteville and Charleston, about 4,200 infantry and cavalry, with a good supply of artillery. I heard, two days ago, of fifteen pieces being sent to Fayetteville (which is strongly fortified), and a re-enforcement of two regiments at Charleston. They are active on that line, and are assembling troops also at Beverly, in what number I hope to know in a few days. I do not see that we would gain any great advantage in penetrating, temporarily, the Kanawha Valley. I prefer, when it becomes possible, a movement against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Under existing laws and regulations, I am impressing vigorously, and yet cannot get sufficient grain for men and animals.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

DUBLIN, *April* 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN ECHOLS and
Col. JOHN MCCAUSLAND:

General Buckner, at Abingdon, reports positively that Averell, with 2,500 men, was at Point Pleasant seven days ago, moving up the valley. Be ready. I do not know whether he will come east or west of New River. Give any news you get.

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 27, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

There are ten good pontoons here, which I can spare if they are wanted with the Virginia army.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

General Lee does not require the pontoons.

S. C.

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ABINGDON, *April* 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

A movement of the enemy from East Tennessee has required me to withdraw my cavalry from Saltville. I will probably have 600 other cavalry at Seven-Mile Ford to-morrow. If I have a fight below, can you lend me any infantry for a few days? Please reply to-day.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 27, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

Averell, with 2,500 cavalry, was certainly at Point Pleasant on the 20th. My information is positive. He meditated a raid on the railway in a few days. As soon as I can arrange matters below I will again concentrate near Saltville. Keep advised in time to assist you. That point will probably be his object. How long would it require for him to make the march?

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 27, 1864.

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

Probably not prudent to take infantry from Saltville, unless my cavalry arrives in the vicinity to-morrow. Will probably know positively about cavalry to-night.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 28, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War:*

SIR: Your letter with regard to the recruits received by General Imboden, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, has been received and forwarded to him for his guidance. While it is desirable to remove the evil of unauthorized enlistments, I fear the enforcement of the order contained in your letter will not be advantageous at the present time in the valley. General Imboden's authority was to raise a corps of partisan rangers and troops within the lines of the enemy, and these partisan rangers, &c., afterward, with the exception of one company (Captain McNeill's), constituted the regular Sixty-second, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth Virginia [Cavalry] Regiments. I am aware of the great evils and abuses which have arisen under the authorities to raise new organizations, and think they should be corrected as far as can be done without incurring hazard and causing manifest injury to the service. A good corps for observation and defense is very necessary in the Valley District, and if General Imboden has enlisted any considerable number of his men under a mistaken view of his authority, to remove them at this time might be disadvantageous. I have called upon him for a report.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

[First indorsement.]

MAY 13, 1864.

To Conscription Bureau, for consideration and remarks.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

[Second indorsement.]

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION,
*Richmond, May* 19, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War.

This bureau has uniformly expressed opinions against the policy of granting such authority as that indicated as being held by General Imboden, and has always recommended the withdrawal of conscript material from such organizations. In view of the emphatic declaration of General Lee, it is suggested that such material as may now be found in these organizations may be permitted to remain "until further orders," but with no admission that the arrangement is to be permanent.

JNO. S. PRESTON,
*Colonel and Superintendent.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April* 28, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President of the Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: I received last evening your letter of the 26th, and regret that Your Excellency is unable to visit the army this

week. I know it would have afforded the troops great pleasure, and I think it would have been attended with benefit. I know not what the following week may bring forth. For some cause there seems to be a pause in the movements of the Army of the Potomac. It has apparently completed its preparations, and for some days back no additions have been made to it. There is great activity in their camps, change of position, &c., and they are apparently surrounding Culpeper Court-House with field-works. I am much rejoiced at the successes which have attended the operations in North Carolina and hope for more good results. I did not expect the return of Hoke's brigade until the work was accomplished or it could be spared, but I think it very important that it should be restored to its division as soon as possible. When troops have been serving together for some time a mutual confidence is established between officers and men, and their separation produces a greater evil than even the diminution of strength. I have witnessed this and heard it expressed by all parties. There are two regiments with General Hoke, the Twenty-first Georgia and Forty-third North Carolina, which belong to other brigades, and which should at once be restored to them. I am glad of General Hoke's promotion, though sorry to lose him, unless he can be sent to me with a division. General Beauregard's presence in North Carolina will, I hope, ward off the danger threatened to that position. If now General Johnston can be strengthened sufficiently to enable him to strike at Sherman before his forces are united it will be attended with the happiest results. For this purpose, if even temporarily, I have thought he might draw from Generals Polk and Maury about 10,000 troops. I have not yet been able to see General Longstreet's corps. It is much diminished from his report, and I am having it equipped as fast as our means will allow. The grass is springing now and I am drawing the cavalry and artillery nearer to me. I regret I cannot spare General E. Johnson at this time; expecting to go into battle any day, it would be very hazardous to assign a new commander to his division. There is no one in it whom I could recommend for the position. I could spare Early better at this time than Johnson, because I might get Gordon or Hoke of that division in his place. I am also embarrassed by the apprehension that I am preventing so worthy a soldier as General Johnson from promotion, though that was not stated by General Cooper. I hope it may not be necessary at this time to take him away.

With great esteem, most respectfully, yours,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 28, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

What extent with reference to co-operation with General Breckinridge am I expected or authorized to move or to accompany troops from this department?

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

[Indorsement.]

APRIL 30, 1864.

Captain RIELY:

General Buckner has been ordered to Trans-Mississippi. General Bushrod Johnson answered.

H. L. C.

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DUBLIN, *April* 28, 1864—2.25 p. m.

Maj. Gen. S. B. BUCKNER,
*Abingdon, Va.:*

Colonel McCausland, at Narrows of New River, reports Averell at Charleston a few days ago. They have also nine regiments of infantry. They intend a movement east or west of New River. If the Tennessee movement is a feint, can't you at once move your troops nearer, say Wythe or Tazewell, that we may co-operate and that you may cover approaches to Saltville, railroad, and lead mines.

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 28, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

I have in the department about 2,000 infantry, besides Morgan's dismounted men, three brigades of cavalry, one of which is in North Carolina, so that I can assemble at any one point at most 4,000.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 28, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

I will move part of my troops to-morrow with a view of covering Saltville. I have telegraphed to Richmond to know to what extent I am expected or authorized to move troops out of this department to co-operate with you. The movement you suggest, in order to be effective, would involve the abandoning of this department. You may rely upon every assistance I can possibly render you. I will inform you as soon as determined the location of the troops which are to assist you.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 28, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

My information about Averell is from one of Morgan's escaped scouts. Morgan vouches for him. He saw the troops at Point Pleasant on the 20th. There may be doubt as to the commander, but none as to the troops being there. Every one said they were Averell's cavalry, and they were given out at 2,500. It is certain that there was a large body of cavalry about starting on a raid.

After a skirmish, in which they were worsted, the enemy are retiring on Tennessee. I will, as soon as practicable, throw troops in position to aid you.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

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RICHMOND, *August* 28, 1864.

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

The following telegram just received from General Buckner, dated April 27:

Averell, with 2,500 cavalry, was certainly at Point Pleasant on 20th, expecting to start on a raid in a very few days.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
*General.*

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DUBLIN, *April* 28, 1864—3.15 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Commanding, Richmond, Va.:*

Your dispatch received. I have reason to think Averell's brigade reached Charleston (Kanawha) about a week ago. An escaped prisoner reports large numbers of troops passing Point Pleasant in boats (up the Ohio) for several days before and after the 5th of April, destined, as they said, for Richmond.

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, April* 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN ECHOLS,
*Commanding, &c., Monroe County, Va.:*

GENERAL: It is hard work with the troops we have to defend the salt-works, the lead mines, the railroad, the iron-works, &c., dotted over an extended country accessible to attack from many quarters. Yet I will do all I can short of entire and fatal separation of the troops.

An advance by us at this moment is impossible. The enemy may advance on the west or the east of New River from Kanawha, or he may move from Beverly, or all together. As yet there are no certain indications. He may make a raid or a general advance. Either you or McCausland can whip a raiding party. In case of a general advance we must concentrate. Active scouts pushed far will give notice enough to secure this. Should the enemy advance from Kanawha in force too strong for you it is not desirable, unless absolutely necessary, to retire toward the east. This would divide the troops, not to mention other considerations. We must expect feints to accompany the real movement of the enemy. Your position is quite far in advance, but I don't want to give up Greenbrier, Monroe, &c., and you will allow me to say that our intercourse has strengthened my confidence in your vigilance and discretion. Colonel Jackson should collect his horses at once, and do the best he can for forage. Matters look too imminent for delay.

Small quantities of breadstuffs are procured with the greatest difficulty. Employ the utmost economy, and if possible reduce the forage rations, substituting grass.

Respectfully and truly,

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
*April* 28, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

One of my scouts and spies, perfectly reliable, is just in. Averell's command reached Camp Piatt on Monday evening. Three or four infantry regiments have also reached the valley. The force now there is estimated at 8,000 men. My impression is that the main force will go through Raleigh, as large quantities of hard bread have been taken to Fayette Court-House in last few days. Their intention is to strike Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. This information was obtained direct from one of Averell's colonels. Large force at Beverly collecting; their object is Staunton. I will write you fully.

JNO. ECHOLS,
*Brigadier-General.*

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NARROWS, *April* 28, 1864.

Major STRINGFELLOW,
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Captain Stollings' (Forty-fifth) battalion has just arrived from Boone County. Averell's brigade—five regiments of cavalry—had reached Charleston. An escaped prisoner has also arrived, and reports that large numbers of troops have been passing up the Ohio River, and they said they were going to Richmond. As many as twenty-five steamboats loaded with troops have passed Point Pleasant in one day. The force at Kanawha is estimated at nine regiments of infantry and seven of cavalry. Captain Stollings thinks they will operate on the west side of New River. I am of the same opinion. The road will be completed to Rocky Gap by the 1st May.

JNO. McCAUSLAND,
*Colonel, &c.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, April* 28, 1864.

Col. JOHN McCAUSLAND,
*Commanding, Narrows, New River:*

COLONEL: I do not wish to give up Greenbrier and Monroe, and as to an advance, Echols can hardly be fed where he is; besides, it would require a union of all the forces.

The enemy is evidently preparing for a raid or a general advance. Either you or Echols can whip a raiding party. If he advances in force we must concentrate so that the brigades must not at any time be too far apart.

The enemy has two routes open to him from the Kanawha, one on the east, the other on the west of New River. He may also come from direction of Beverly. As yet there is no certain indication of

his route. Active and daring scouts pushed far to the front will give notice enough to secure concentration if he advances in strong force. If the troops at Princeton should be threatened by too strong a force before you can assist them they must move toward Narrows or Rocky Gap, according to circumstances. Some force must be left at the Narrows in any case. The completion of the road up Wolf Creek at once is very important.

The enemy occupies a position from which roads lead in every direction to our numerous assailable points, each of which is expected to be defended, but you know the inherent difficulties of our position as well as I do. We must trust to the earliest intelligence and then to the promptest movements.

Breadstuffs and forage are procured in small quantities and with extreme difficulty. Employ the utmost economy, and if practicable reduce the forage ration and use grass.

I am, colonel, respectfully and truly,

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS KINSTON MILITARY DISTRICT,
*Kinston, N. C., April 28, 1864.*

Col. JOHN N. WHITFORD,
*Commanding Sixty-seventh North Carolina Regiment:*

COLONEL: Brig. Gen. W. S. Walker, commanding, thinks the movement suggested by you would be a good one, but General Hoke is aware of your position and has the sole control of the troops in the operations about Washington. It is presumed he has made arrangements for cutting off the enemy on the road to New Berne, and that your command may be required for other purposes. Hold yourself in readiness and await orders. If practicable, put yourself in communication with General Hoke and suggest the advance of your command to a point where it will be available in cutting the line of the enemy's retreat and can be securely withdrawn to your present post.

I am, colonel, yours, very respectfully,

JAMES LOWNDES,
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 99. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, April 28, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

VI. Brig. Gen. A. Gracie, jr., with his brigade, will proceed by railroad to Richmond, Va., and report to Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, jr., commanding, &c.

VII. Brig. Gen. J. Hagood, with his brigade, will proceed by railroad to headquarters Department of North Carolina, Weldon, N. C., and report to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty at Wilmington, N. C.

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IX. Paragraph XLII, Special Orders, No. 89, current series, is hereby revoked, and Col. George A. Gordon, with his regiment, the Sixty-third Georgia Volunteers, will proceed by railroad to head-

quarters Army of Tennessee, Dalton, Ga., and report to General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c.

X. Col. John W. Evans, with his regiment, the Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, will proceed by railroad to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to Brig. Gen. A. R. Wright's brigade.

XI. So much of paragraph XL, Special Orders, No. 89, current series, as refers to the First Regiment Georgia Volunteers is hereby revoked.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *April 29, 1864.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: I received this morning a report from a scout just from the vicinity of Washington that General Burnside, with 23,000 men, 7,000 of which are negroes, marched through that city on Monday last to Alexandria. He also states that the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps have not been sent to Virginia. This report was forwarded by General Fitz. Lee from Fredericksburg, and I presume the scout to be Stringfellow. If so, he has good grounds for his assertion. If true, I think it shows that Burnside's destination is the Rappahannock frontier, and that he will have to be met north of the James River. I would therefore recommend that the troops which you design to oppose him, which are south of that river, be drawn toward it. I think there are sufficient troops in North Carolina for the local operations contemplated there without those sent from this army, and request that Hoke's brigade and the two regiments attached to it be returned to me. I think it better to keep the organization of the corps complete, and, if necessary, to detach a corps than to weaken them and break them up. I have kept Longstreet in reserve for such an emergency, and shall be too weak to oppose Meade's army without Hoke's and R. D. Johnston's brigades. The enemy yesterday made a demonstration on our left with two brigades of cavalry. The supporting force could not be accurately ascertained. He advanced no farther than Robertson River, sending about a regiment of cavalry into Madison Court-House, and retired at night.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
*Weldon, N. C., April 29, 1864.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
*Commanding, &c., Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: As it may become important to the War Department during the coming campaign to ascertain as soon as practicable if any of the enemy's forces from the Department of South Carolina,

Georgia, and Florida have been transferred to the armies of North Carolina or Virginia, I send you, as follows, the names of most of General Gillmore's general officers, whose arrival in those States might be an indication of a corresponding transfer of troops: Brigadier-Generals Seymour, Vogdes, Terry, Hatch, Schimmelfennig, and Turner, chief of staff. It may be well to remark here that most of these brigadier-generals are in command of divisions, their brigades being commanded by colonels. Should it be probable that I may have to operate soon north of the James River I have to request that maps of that part of the country should be prepared beforehand for me, showing all the roads, rivers, fords, swamps, &c., and that material for temporary bridges should be collected whenever they may be required for rapid offensive movements. I take this opportunity to remark that should the operations of the coming campaign make it necessary that I should be placed immediately under the orders of that distinguished officer, General R. E. Lee, I would take pleasure in aiding him to crush our enemies and to achieve the independence of our country.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*General, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

MAY 2, 1864.

Respectfully referred for the information of the War Department and President.

Brigadier-Generals Vogdes and Terry have arrived with troops at Fort Monroe, and the best information tends to show a general transfer of troops from the south to operate against this point.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
*General.*

[Second indorsement.]

MAY 4, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Third indorsement.]

MAY 7, 1864.

Respectfully submitted for the information of the President, in accordance with General Bragg's suggestion.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

MAY 9, 1864.

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Maps of the country, with such additions as may from time to time be made, should be kept on hand in the Engineer Bureau and furnished to officers in the field. Preparation of material for bridges, &c., will continue to be made as heretofore, and with such additional effort as circumstances require. I did not doubt the

readiness of General Beauregard to serve under any general who ranks him. The right of General Lee to command would be derived from his superior rank.

JEFFN. DAVIS.

[Fifth indorsement.]

MAY 11, 1864.

ENGINEER BUREAU:

Note the earlier paragraph of the President's indorsement.

J. A. S.,
*Secretary.*

[Sixth indorsement.]

ENGINEER BUREAU,
*May* 13, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Secretary of War.

Indorsement noted as requested. Maps have been furnished to and received by General Beauregard.

A. L. RIVES,
*Colonel and Acting Chief of Bureau.*

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WELDON, *April* 29, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

General Whiting telegraphs as follows:

Great fire raging on opposite side of river. All Government works and cotton and private cotton below the railroad depot destroyed. Cotton press and torpedo-boats gone. Fire broke out in these warehouses simultaneously. Home guards were sentinels on train of eighteen cars burned. Have saved the depot and prisoners.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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ABINGDON, *April* 29, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE,
*Dublin, Va.:*

Wharton's brigade, by written orders from Adjutant-General's Office, is ordered to report to you at Dublin Depot. I am to-day sending it to Glade Spring. Shall I direct to continue its march by rail to Dublin? Please answer at once.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 100.

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
*Richmond, Va., April* 29, 1864.

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XIV. Brig. Gen. J. Hagood, with his brigade, will proceed by railroad to Wilmington, N. C., and thence report by letter to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c., Weldon, N. C., for assignment to duty.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. KINSTON MILITARY DISTRICT, *Kinston, N. C., April* 29, 1864.

I. In pursuance of orders from the general commanding the department, I assume command of the troops in the Kinston Military District, embracing the country between the Tar and Trent Rivers.

II. The following-named officers will constitute my staff and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Capt. Edward H. Barnwell, assistant adjutant-general and inspector; Capt. James Lowndes, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. George L. Washington, aide-de-camp.

W. S. WALKER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *Kinston, N. C., April* 29, 1864.

Colonel WHITFORD,
*Commanding Outposts near Coward's Bridge:*

COLONEL: You will order a rapid and close reconnaissance, with such cavalry as you can spare for the purpose, for the purpose of ascertaining the meaning of the recent movement of the enemy from Washington toward New Berne. You will instruct the officer commanding the party to furnish the information obtained to the commanding officer of our forces near Washington (General Ransom), and also to these headquarters, as early as practicable. If there is any information of interest that can be sent here by 5 o'clock this evening, General Hoke would be able to avail himself of it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. S. WALKER,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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APRIL 30, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: A dispatch from General Lee to the President, just received, reports Burnside certainly moving rapidly to join Meade, and General L. urges the movement of all assistance practicable to his front. The Secretary of War concurs with me in the following: Urge the expedition of General Hoke to an issue at once, so that his force may join General Lee. It will be best to telegraph Beauregard at Kinston, where he went yesterday to confer with Hoke. Order B. R. Johnson's brigade from Bristol here, and Hagood's from Wilmington; Colquitt's or Wise's may also be safely sent on from Charleston. As Wise's are Virginia troops, they may be best, but you know them better than I can. These orders should be sent to-night if possible.

Very respectfully,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
*General.*

[Indorsement.]

Major RIELY:

Make a telegram in conformity to General Bragg's suggestions within in my name to General Beauregard, &c., and send it off to-night. Order Johnson's brigade from Bristol here, and Hagood's from Wilmington to start without delay, and dispatch General Jones to send on at once Wise's or Colquitt's brigade (Wise's in preference), to repair immediately to Richmond. Also telegraph General Beauregard to send up Hoke's force if there should be no prospect of an attack by Hoke on New Berne, which it is understood will not now be made, on account of large force of the enemy at that place and the strength of the works there

S. C.

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ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *April* 30, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Your telegram is received. They are not wanted.

R. E. LEE.

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 30, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
*Kinston, N. C.:*

Send Hagood's brigade from Wilmington to this place. If there is no prospect of an attack on New Berne by General Hoke, order his force on also.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. B. BUCKNER,
*Abingdon, Va.:*

Send Johnson's brigade without delay to this place.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *April* 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES,
*Charleston, S. C.:*

Send at once Wise's or Colquitt's brigade to this place; the former preferred.

S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 30, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
*Richmond:*

SIR: As the session of Congress is about to begin, I beg leave to call your attention to the subject of publishing reports of military operations. It is erroneously supposed that no harm can be done by

disclosing everything connected with those events that have been completed. Such is not the case, in my opinion, and I have seen already some of the evil consequences that ensue from such publications. In my own reports I endeavor to explain the reasons that induced me to adopt any particular line of policy, and those reasons may influence my action on future occasions. Sometimes our movements are controlled by the nature of the country and other physical causes; at others they are governed by an assumed intention of the enemy, and frequently by both causes combined. It is no little advantage to our opponents to know how we are affected, or what action is induced by movements of theirs, or by any other state of circumstances. Particularly is this the case at the present time. The operations of this campaign are likely to cover many localities that have been the scene of some of the events narrated in my reports, and it is by no means impossible that we may have to deal with combinations of circumstances in all respects analogous to some that have already been encountered, and I feel that I should be embarrassed if the enemy knew the line of conduct pursued by me on former occasions and the reasons that governed me.

I am afraid that much injury has already been done by these publications. I should be well pleased to have as accurate information as to the strength, means, and difficulties of the enemy as the publication of the correspondence between General Johnston and the Department afforded them of our situation and strength in Mississippi. I have no doubt their subsequent expedition into that State was based to some extent upon the knowledge derived from that publication. I have seen comments upon the short report I forwarded of the Pennsylvania campaign, which show that the enemy do not fail to appreciate the information it contained, and will avail themselves of it should another invasion be attempted.

I beg that, if it be possible, no reports may be made public, at least until after the campaign. Congress can use them, but it is not necessary for any purpose to disseminate them, and will seriously embarass me in directing our own movements and understanding those of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
*April* 30, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
*President Confederate States:*

MR. PRESIDENT: My dispatch of 1.45 p. m. to-day announced to you the march of Burnside's forces through Centreville. Citizens report the arrival of his troops at Rappahannock Station. I send you the Philadelphia Inquirer of the 26th, from which you will learn that all their available forces are being advanced to the front. They are also apparently drawing troops from Florida and the southern coast. Lieutenant-Colonel Mosby, who was within a mile of Centreville on the 28th, the day that Burnside passed through, learned from prisoners that no troops were left at Annapolis except convalescents. I see no evidence of more troops being brought from Tennessee, and it may be inferred from newspapers sent, and from the Washington Chronicle of the 27th, that the Twelfth Corps is still in that depart-

ment. As far as I can judge, although there may be a large force in Tennessee, it seems to occupy an extended line, and is not yet concentrated as if for attack. If General Johnston could be re-enforced from Mobile, or by General Polk, he might be able to penetrate their lines or successfully resist their advance. Our scouts report that the engineer troops, pontoon trains, and all the cavalry of Meade's army have been advanced south of the Rappahannock. The regiments of the old Fifth Corps, which have been guarding the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, have been brought forward and replaced by negro troops. Everything indicates a concentrated attack on this front, which renders me the more anxious to get back the troops belonging to this army, and causes me to suggest, if possible, that others be moved from points at the south, where they can be spared, to Richmond. There will no doubt be a strong demonstration made north or south of the James River, which Beauregard will be able successfully to resist. I judge also, from present indications, that Averell and Sigel will move against the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad or Staunton, to resist which Generals Breckinridge and Imboden should act in concert. I have requested them to do so.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
*General.*

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HEADQUARTERS VALLEY DISTRICT,
*April* 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Commanding Department of Western Virginia:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 24th was received three days ago, and I have delayed answering it in the hope that further developments of the enemy's plans would be made from day to day, but as yet I have been unable to discover his purpose. I have dispatches from Hampshire this morning of date 28th instant. Considerable bodies of troops from the West have been passing for a week over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to re-enforce Grant, reported to be the veteran troops of Grant's old command. Sigel has 800 cavalry in Cumberland and 300 at Springfield in Hampshire, and a considerable body of infantry at New Creek, all under marching orders, and believed to be in readiness to co-operate with Averell, whose precise whereabouts I cannot discover. He was personally present in Cumberland about a week ago in conference with Sigel. Citizens from Martinsburg on yesterday report that he is at that place. I do not believe this last report. The force to my front is small, guarding the railroad, and apparently meditating no advance up this valley, though I believe an advance will be made from New Creek and Cumberland through Hardy, Pendleton, and Highland to co-operate with a movement from Beverly and the Kanawha Valley. I have an effective force of a little over 2,000 men. I am concentrating about 1,500 of these about 20 miles northwest of Staunton; the residue I will leave in Shenandoah and Page as scouts and pickets. With my main body I will have to make the best defense I can of the Virginia Central Railroad and of Staunton and Lexington if menaced or attacked. The great difficulty with me is that I am threatened from two directions, New Creek and Beverly, and possibly from Martinsburg.

I am much obliged to you for directing Colonel Jackson to communicate with me. It may become highly important for Colonel Jackson and myself to unite at or about Millborough, if the enemy seeks to penetrate the valley about Lexington. I am therefore taking a position on the Warm Springs and Harrisonburg turnpike, from whence I may move in either direction. I will promptly advise you of any important movement of the enemy as soon as discovered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

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MOUNT CRAWFORD, *April* 30, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

I have organized into companies, and have commenced arming over 1,000 reserves in Augusta, Rockingham, and Shenandoah, under paragraph 22, Special Orders, No. 87. A raid upon us is imminent. I ask immediate authority to call out temporarily these forces if the enemy advances.

Respectfully,

J. D. IMBODEN,
*Brigadier-General.*

---

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
*Richmond, Va., April* 30, 1864.

General J. D. IMBODEN,
*Mount Crawford:*

You are authorized to call out the reserves as far as organized, according to your judgment.

J. A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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ABINGDON, *April* 30, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

General Johnson has just informed me that he has received instructions from General Bragg to throw his cavalry forward. This cannot be done at present, because the cavalry destined for that part of my line has not yet returned from North Carolina, and all the rest of my cavalry is concentrating at different points for a necessary purpose. I will explain more fully by mail. Please inform General Bragg that his orders, if given direct to me instead of to my subordinate, will be executed with the utmost promptness whenever practicable.

S. B. BUCKNER,
*Major-General.*

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,
*Dublin, April* 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General IMBODEN,
*Mount Crawford, Va.:*

GENERAL: I believe Major Poor, engineer of this department, by my direction has seen and conferred with you, but for certainty I send a few lines.

I observe that by authority from the War Department you are organizing the reserve forces in Alleghany, Botetourt, and certain other counties. I have had a work completed at the railroad bridge over the Cow Pasture, and have ordered another at the railroad bridge over New River, and rifle-pits at Island Ford. These latter should be done very soon. By this time I think the road through McGraw's Gap has been destroyed. Colonel Jackson's command is the only one I can rely on for sudden service in that region. He has been directed to look to the approaches to these points. I presume you will have the reserve forces of Alleghany, Botetourt, Rockbridge, &c., ready to occupy these positions if necessary.

I am, general, respectfully and truly,

JNO. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
*Major-General.*

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*Abstract from return of the Army of Western Virginia, Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding, for the month of April*, 1864.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Effective total present. | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | |
| General staff | 21 | ..... | ..... | 21 | 21 |
| Infantry: | | | | | |
| Echols' brigade *a* | 107 | 1,339 | 1,339 | 1,615 | 2,182 |
| McCausland's brigade *b* | 99 | 1,548 | 1,548 | 1,774 | 2,257 |
| Wharton's brigade *c* | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 45th Virginia Regiment | 42 | 749 | 749 | 840 | 971 |
| Bosang's company | ..... | 41 | 39 | 48 | 96 |
| Total infantry | 248 | 3,677 | 3,675 | 4,277 | 5,506 |
| Cavalry: | | | | | |
| Jackson's brigade *d* | 89 | 810 | 810 | 1,010 | 1,994 |
| Jenkins' brigade (collecting) *e* | 115 | 1,315 | 1,332 | 1,616 | 3,008 |
| 37th Virginia Battalion, Company H | 4 | 67 | 67 | 71 | 99 |
| Total cavalry | 208 | 2,192 | 2,209 | 2,697 | 5,101 |
| Artillery (seven batteries) | 30 | 642 | 597 | 675 | 822 |
| Engineer troops (one company) | 3 | 57 | 57 | 61 | 73 |
| Grand total | 510 | 6,568 | 6,538 | 7,731 | 11,523 |

*a* Three companies (aggregate 229) on detached service omitted from brigade return.
*b* Three officers and 33 men prisoners of war.
*c* Just reported, and being on the move, have not yet forwarded return.
*d* Six officers and 200 men prisoners of war. Forty-seventh Virginia Battalion (aggregate 315) not reported.
*e* One officer and 66 men prisoners of war.

*Organization of the Army of Western Virginia, Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding, April 30, 1864.**

*Echols' Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JOHN ECHOLS.

22d Virginia, Col. George S. Patton.
23d Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Clarence Derrick.
26th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. George M. Edgar.
Virginia Partisan Rangers, Capt. Philip J. Thurmond.
Virginia Partisan Rangers, Capt. William D. Thurmond.
Virginia Partisan Rangers, Capt. John Amick.
Chapman's (Virginia) battery, Capt. George B. Chapman.

*Jenkins' Cavalry Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. ALBERT G. JENKINS.

14th Virginia, Col. James Cochran.
16th Virginia, Maj. James H. Nounnan.
17th Virginia, Col. William H. French.
22d Virginia, Col. Henry S. Bowen.

*Saltville.*

Col. WILLIAM H. BROWNE.

45th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Edwin H. Harman.
Burroughs' (Tennessee) battery, Capt. William H. Burroughs.
McClung's (Tennessee) battery, Capt. Hugh L. W. McClung.

*McCausland's Brigade.*

Col. JOHN MCCAUSLAND.

36th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Thomas Smith.
60th Virginia, Col. Beuhring H. Jones.
45th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Beckley.
Bryan's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Thomas A. Bryan.

*Jackson's Cavalry Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM L. JACKSON.

19th Virginia, Capt. George Downs.
20th Virginia, Col. William W. Arnett.
46th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Joseph K. Kesler.
47th Virginia Battalion, Maj. William N. Harman.
Lurty's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Warren S. Lurty.

*Miscellaneous.*

Bosang's company (Company C, Fourth Virginia Infantry), Lieut. James F. Cecil.
Hart's engineer company, Capt. William T. Hart.
Botetourt (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Henry C. Douthat.
Jackson's (Virginia) Horse Artillery, Capt. Thomas E. Jackson.

* Wharton's brigade not accounted for.

# ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

# ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

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**Abbot's** (Henry L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Abbott's** (Henry L.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Abbott's** (Joseph C.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Abbott's** (Robert O.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps.*
**Abell's** (Caspar K.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 72d Regiment.*
**Abraham's** (Isaac M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 85th Regiment.*
**Accotink Home Guard.** See *Virginia Troops, Union.*
**Ackerly's** (Albert J.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Adams'** (Charles F., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Adams'** (George W.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery G.*
**Adams'** (Zachariah T.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery D.*
**Addicks'** (Thomas H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 157th Regiment.*
**Ahl's** (George W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Delaware Troops.*
**Aigan's** (John) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery A.*
**Aiken's** (H. K.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Albemarle Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Alexander's** (Charles M.) **Infantry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Alexander's** (Frederic W.) **Artillery.** See *Baltimore Artillery, Union, post.*
**Alexandria Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Allcock's** (Thomas) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment, 3d Battalion.*
**Alleghany Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Allen's** (Crawford, jr.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Allen's** (C. Tacitus) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Lunenburg Heavy Artillery, post.*
**Allen's** (Richard J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**Alles'** (Henry M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 74th Regiment.*
**Allison's** (John S.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Ames'** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 6th Regiment.*
**Ames'** (Nelson) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery G.*
**Amherst Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Amick's** (John) **Partisans.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Amory's** (Thomas J. C.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 17th Regiment.*
**Anderson's** (Hiram, jr.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 92d Regiment.*
**Anderson's** (L. B.) **Home Guards.** See *North Anna Home Guards, post.*
**Anderson's** (Robert H.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Anderson's** (Robert M.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Howitzers, post, 1st Company.*
**Andrew Sharpshooters.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Company.*
**Andrews'** (William G.) **Artillery.** See *Montgomery True Blues, post.*
**Angel's** (Ashbel W.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 5th Regiment.*

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* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

**Angel's** (James R.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Batteries K and M.*
**Anthony's** (George T.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 17th Battery.*
**Armistead's** (A. D.) **Artillery.** See *Mathews Artillery, post.*
**Armory Battalion, Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion, Local Defense.*
**Armstrong's** (Jesse J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 146th Regiment.*
**Arnett's** (William W.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 20th Regiment.*
**Arnold's** (Abraham K.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment.*
**Arnold's** (William A.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
**Arsenal Battalion, Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 5th Battalion, Local Defense.*
**Arthur's** (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment, 2d Battalion.*
**Ash's** (Joseph P.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment.*
**Ashby's** (George E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery E.*
**Ashland Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Atwood's** (Cornelius G.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
**August's** (Thomas P.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 15th Regiment.*
**Avery's** (M. Henry) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Aydelotte's** (John B. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Delaware Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Ayer's** (Ira, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 10th Reserves.*
**Babbitt** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Babcock's** (Nathan S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 77th Regiment.*
**Bacon** (William P.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Badham's** (William, jr.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery B.*
**Bailey's** (Edward L.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Baily's** (Silas M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 8th Reserves.*
**Baily's** (William P.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Baird's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 126th Regiment.*
**Baker's** (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
**Baker's** (Lafayette C.) **Cavalry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Baker's** (J. Stannard) **Cavalry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Baker's** (Samuel E.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Ball's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 122d Regiment.*
**Ballier's** (John F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 98th Regiment.*
**Balthis'** (W. H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 21st Regiment.*
**Baltimore Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battery.*
**Baltimore Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
**Barbee's** (Andrew R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
**Barnard's** (Daniel P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 139th Regiment.*
**Barnes'** (Almont) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery C.*
**Barnes'** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 9th Reserves.*
**Barney's** (Albert M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
**Barney's** (Elisha L.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Barney's** (Valentine G.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Barstow's** (George F.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Batteries F and K.*
**Bartholomew's** (Walter G.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 27th Regiment.*
**Bartlett's** (William F.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 57th Regiment.*
**Bassett's** (Isaac C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 82d Regiment.*
**Bates'** (Delevan) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 30th Regiment.*
**Bates'** (James L.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Bates'** (Thomas H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
**Bates'** (Willard W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*

**Batte's** (Peter V.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 44th Battalion.*
**Bayley's** (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 9th Regiment.*
**Beach's** (Francis) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Beale's** (Richard L. T.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
**Bean's** (Onslow) **Cavalry.** See *James E. Carter's Cavalry, post.*
**Beaver's** (James A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 148th Regiment.*
**Becker's** (Gottfried) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 28th Regiment.*
**Beckley's** (Henry M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 45th Battalion.*
**Bedford Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Bedford Cavalry.** (Official designation not of record.) See p. 306.
**Beger's** (Charles) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Battery.*
**Belden's** (Charles O.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 67th Regiment.*
**Belger's** (James) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*
**Bell's** (Louis) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Bell's** (William) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Benjamin's** (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Bennett's** (Frank T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 55th Regiment.*
**Bennett's** (George A.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Light Guard, Cavalry, post.*
**Biddle's** (William M.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Bidwell's** (Daniel D.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 49th Regiment.*
**Bigelow's** (John) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th Battery.*
**Biles'** (Edwin R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 99th Regiment.*
**Biles'** (Edwin R.) **Sharpshooters.*** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 1st Regiment.*
**Bingham's** (Samuel R.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery D.*
**Black Horse Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
**Black's** (John L.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Black's** (Mahlon) **Sharpshooters.** See *Minnesota Troops, 2d Company.*
**Blain's** (Randolph H.) **Artillery.** See *Thomas E. Jackson's Artillery, post.*
**Blair's** (M. Lewis) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 143d Regiment.*
**Blaisdell's** (William) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Blakeslee's** (Erastus) **Cavalry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Blessing's** (William) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 23d Battalion.*
**Blount's** (Joseph G.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Bodine's** (Robert L.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 26th Regiment.*
**Bolinger's** (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 7th Reserves.*
**Borrowe's** (William) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery H.*
**Bosang's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
**Botetourt Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Bowen's** (Edward R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 114th Regiment.*
**Bowen's** (George K.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 188th Regiment.*
**Bowen's** (Henry S.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
**Bowen's** (Lot) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Bowerman's** (Richard N.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 4th Regiment.*
**Bowie's** (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
**Boyd's** (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Boykin's** (Ed. M.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Boyle's** (Peter T.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 63d, 69th, and 88th Regiments.*
**Boynton's** (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Bradbury's** (Albert W.) **Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Battery.*
**Bradley's** (Leman W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 64th Regiment.*
**Brady's** (Allen G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 20th Regiment.*
**Bragg's** (Edward S.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 6th Regiment.*

* Temporarily commanding.

**Branch Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
**Brander's (Thomas A.) Artillery.** See *Letcher Artillery, post.*
**Braxton's Company.** (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Braxton.*
**Breathed's (James) Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Brinckle's (John R.) Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery E.*
**Briner's (William) Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Reserves.*
**Brinton's (William P.) Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 18th Regiment.*
**Broady's (K. Oscar) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 61st Regiment.*
**Bronson's (Nelson) Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 89th Company.*
**Brooke's (James V.) Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Brooker's (Albert F.) Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Brooks Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
**Brown's (Francis C.) Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Brown's (Hiram L.) Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 145th Regiment.*
**Brown's (John A.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 85th Regiment.*
**Brown's (John E.) Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 42d Regiment.*
**Brown's (Morris, jr.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 126th Regiment.*
**Brown's (Ridgely) Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion.*
**Brown's (T. Fred.) Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Brown's (William R.) Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Browne's (William H.) Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 45th Regiment.*
**Bruen's (Luther B.) Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 12th Regiment.*
**Bryan's (Thomas A.) Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Bryan's (Timothy M., jr.) Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 18th Regiment.*
**Bryan's (William E.) Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Bucklyn's (John K.) Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
**Buffum's (Martin P.) Infantry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Bukey's (Van H.) Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Bull's (James M.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 126th Regiment.*
**Bulmer's (George A.) Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery A.*
**Burke's (Denis F.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 88th Regiment.*
**Burke's (Thomas F.) Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Burnham's (John H.) Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Burns' (Michael W.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 73d Regiment.*
**Burpee's (Thomas F.) Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Burroughs' (William H.) Artillery.** See *Rhett Artillery, post.*
**Burton's (John E.) Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 11th Battery.*
**Cabell's (Joseph R.) Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 38th Regiment.*
**Cady's (A. Lester) Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 24th Battery.*
**Campbell's (Cleaveland J.) Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 23d Regiment.*
**Carlin's (John) Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*
**Carlton's (Henry H.) Artillery.** See *Troup Artillery, post.*
**Caroline Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Carpenter's (Leonard W.) Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Carr's (John O.) Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Battalion.*
**Carroll's (Edward) Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 95th Regiment.*
**Carroll's (John J.) Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Carson's (John M.) Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 27th Regiment.*
**Carter's (James E.) Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
**Carter's (John J.) Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment (Veteran).*
**Carter's (William P.) Artillery.** See *King William Artillery, post.*
**Cartwright's (George W.) Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 28th Regiment.*

**Cartwright's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 27th Regiment.*
**Cary's** (N. R.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Battalion.*
**Catlin's** (Theodore B.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Cavins'** (Elijah H. C.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 14th Regiment.*
**Cayce's** (George M.) **Artillery.** See *Purcell Artillery, post.*
**Cecil's** (James F.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
**Chamberlain's** (Abial G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 37th Regiment.*
**Chamberlain's** (Frank) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 125th Regiment.*
**Chambers'** (John G.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 23d Regiment.*
**Chapin's** (Robert H.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Battery D.*
**Chaplin's** (Daniel) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Chapman's** (Alford B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 57th and 66th Regiments.*
**Chapman's** (George B.) **Artillery.** See *Monroe Artillery, post.*
**Charleston Light Dragoons, Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Charlotte Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery C.*
**Charlottesville Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Chase's** (Dudley H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 17th Regiment.*
**Chesapeake Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate.*
**Chew's** (Henry F.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Chew's** (R. Preston) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Chincapin Rangers, Cavalry.** See *James C. Kincheloe's Cavalry, post.*
**Choate's** (Francis C.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery B.*
**Chrysler's** (Morgan H.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment (Veteran).*
**Church's** (Morris H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 19th Regiment.*
**City Battalion, Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Claassen's** (Peter J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 132d Regiment.*
**Claflin's** (Ira W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 6th Regiment.*
**Claiborne's** (James R.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 37th Battalion.*
**Clapp's** (Dexter E.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 38th Regiment.*
**Clark's** (A. Judson) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 2d Battery.*
**Clark's** (Charles A.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 27th Battery.*
**Clarke's** (J. Lyle) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Battalion.*
**Clarke's** (Robert) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Battery A.*
**Clarke's** (William J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
**Clarke's** (Will W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 85th Regiment.*
**Clutter's** (Valentine J.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Coates'** (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Cobb's Legion.** See *Georgia Troops.*
**Cochran's** (James) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
**Cochran's** (Thomas A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 103d Regiment.*
**Coffin's** (Benjamin J.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Coit's** (James B.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 14th Regiment.*
**Colcock's** (C. J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Cole's** (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment.*
**Cole's** (Henry A.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, P. H. B.*
**Coleman's** (Wiley G.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Neblett Heavy Artillery, post.*
**Collis'** (Charles H. T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 114th Regiment.*
**Comegys'** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, E. S.*
**Comfort's** (Samuel, jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Confederate Guard, Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
**Conine's** (James W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 5th Regiment.*

**Conley's** (Isaiah) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
**Conner's** (Freeman) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 44th Regiment.*
**Connor's** (Selden) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 19th Regiment.*
**Conrad's** (Joseph S.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment.*
**Conwell's** (Russell H.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery D.*
**Cook's** (Alfonso F.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
**Cook's** (John E.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 76th Regiment.*
**Cook's** (Joseph H.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**Cook's** (Roger E.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, P. H. B.*
**Cooke's** Edwin F.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Cooley's** (Francis M.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 11th Regiment.*
**Coons'** (John) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 14th Regiment.*
**Cooper's** (Frederick) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Cooper's** (James H.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Cooper's** (Raleigh L.) **Artillery.** See *Stafford Artillery, post.*
**Coppens'** (Alfred) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops.*
**Corbit's** (Charles) **Cavalry.** See *Delaware Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Coughlin's** (John) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Coulter's** (Richard) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Counselman's** (Jacob H.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery K.*
**Courtney Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Covenay's** (Jeremiah W.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 28th Regiment.*
**Cowan's** (Andrew) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Battery.*
**Craig's** (Calvin A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 105th Regiment.*
**Crandell's** (Levin) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 125th Regiment.*
**Crane's** (James Parran) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment and 1st Battalion.*
**Crego's** (Thomas H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*
**Crenshaw Artillery.** See *Thomas Ellett's Artillery, post.*
**Crocker's** (John S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 93d Regiment.*
**Crocker's** (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Crookston's** (Absalom) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Cross'** (Nelson) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 67th Regiment.*
**Cross'** (Richard E.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Crossman** (Horace F.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 96th Company.*
**Crowninshield's** (Benjamin W.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Crowninshield's** (Casper) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Cuff's** (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 158th Regiment.*
**Cullen's** (Edgar M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 96th Regiment.*
**Cummings'** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 17th Regiment.*
**Cummings'** (Emory) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 23d Battalion.*
**Cummings'** (Joseph H.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Cummins'** (Francis M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 124th Regiment.*
**Curlis'** (William B.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Curry's** (William L.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 106th Regiment.*
**Curtin's** (John I.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 45th Regiment.*
**Curtis'** (Sylvanus W.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Curtis'** (William B.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Cutcheon's** (Byron M.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Daggett's** (Rufus) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 117th Regiment.*

**Daily's** (John M.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 14th Regiment.*
**Dale's** (Richard C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 116th Regiment.*
**Dana's** (Edmund L.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 143d Regiment.*
**Dandy's** (George B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 100th Regiment.*
**Danks'** (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 63d Regiment.*
**Danville Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Dare's** (George) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Reserves.*
**Davidson's** (George S.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Davis'** (Edwin P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 153d Regiment.*
**Davis'** (Phineas S.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 39th Regiment.*
**Davis'** (William) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 69th Regiment.*
**Dawson's** (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 61st Regiment.*
**Dawson's** (Matthew M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 100th Regiment.*
**Day's** (Luther) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 17th Regiment.*
**Dayton's** (Oscar V.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 19th Regiment.*
**Deane's** (Charles W.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Dearing's** (James) **Cavalry.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars.*
**Deering's** (Arthur) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 32d Regiment.*
**De Forest's** (Jacob J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 81st Regiment.*
**De Land's** (Charles V.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Deming's** (Charles R.) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 16th Battery.*
**Denison's** (Andrew W.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
**Dennison's** (William N.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Battery G.*
**Departmental Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Local Defense.*
**Derrick's** (Clarence) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 23d Battalion.*
**Derrick's** (H. C.) **Engineers.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment.*
**Deverell's** (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 108th Regiment.*
**Devereux's** (Arthur F.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 19th Regiment.*
**Devol's** (Hiram F.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 36th Regiment.*
**Dewey's** (George M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Dickenson's** (Crispin) **Artillery.** See *Ringgold Artillery, post.*
**Dickinson's** (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Dimon's** (Charles A. R.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 1st Regiment.*
**Dixon's** (William D.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 6th Reserves.*
**Dobbs'** (Cyrus J.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Donald's** (William K.) **Artillery.** See *Rockbridge Artillery, No. 2, post.*
**Donaldsonville Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops.*
**Dorrell's** (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Douglass'** (Roswell S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery M.*
**Douthat's** (Henry C.) **Artillery.** See *Botetourt Artillery, ante.*
**Dow's** (Edwin B.) **Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 6th Battery.*
**Downing's** (Patrick J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 42d Regiment.*
**Downs'** (George) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
**Drake's** (Jeremiah C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 112th Regiment.*
**Draper's** (Alonzo G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 36th Regiment.*
**Draper's** (William F.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 36th Regiment.*
**Drewry's** (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Southside Artillery, post.*
**Du Bois** (Samuel T.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Dudley's** (James S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Battery E.*
**Dunkin's Troop.** (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Dunkin.*
**Dunn's** (David C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 63d Regiment.*

**Dunne's** (John P.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 115th Regiment.*
**Dunovant's** (John) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Du Pont's** (Henry A.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery B.*
**Durell's** (George W.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery D.*
**Dutton's** (Arthur H.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Duvall's** (Robert E.) **Cavalry.** See *Purnell Legion, Cavalry, post.*
**Dwight's** (Augustus W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 122d Regiment.*
**Eagan's** (Michael) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 20th Regiment*
**Eager's** (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Eakin's** (Chandler P.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Earle's** (William E.) **Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery A.*
**Easterly's** (George B.) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 4th Battery.*
**Eaton's** (John B.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 27th Battery.*
**Ebright's** (Aaron W.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 126th Regiment.*
**Edgar's** (George M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Battalion.*
**Edgell's** (Frederick M.) **Artillery.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 1st Battery.*
**Edmonds'** (Charles A.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 109th Company.*
**Edwards'** (Albert M.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 24th Regiment.*
**Edwards'** (Clark S.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Edwards'** (John, jr.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Batteries L and M.*
**Edwards'** (Oliver) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 37th Regiment.*
**Egan's** (John) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery K.*
**Egan's** (Thomas W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 40th Regiment.*
**Elder's** (Samuel S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Ellett's** (Thomas) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Elliott's** (Robert T.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Elliott's** (W. M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion.*
**Ellis'** (Andrew J.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery A.*
**Ellis'** (Richard) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Reserves.*
**Elwell's** (Andrew) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 23d Regiment.*
**Emerson's** (Albert L.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Emery's** (Sabine) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**England's** (Theophilus L.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 89th Regiment.*
**Enoch's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Ent's** (Wellington H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 6th Reserves.*
**Epes'** (Branch J.) **Artillery.** See *Johnston Artillery, post.*
**Essex Guard.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Evans'** (Andrew W.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**Evans'** (David M.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Evans'** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 64th Regiment.*
**Ewing's** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Ewing's** (Chatham T.) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery G.*
**Ewing's** (William A.) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Exempts' Battalion, Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops.*
**Fagan's** (Andrew) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Fair's** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 147th Regiment.*
**Fairlamb's** (George A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 148th Regiment.*
**Faison's** (Paul F.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
**Fardella's** (Enrico) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 85th Regiment.*
**Farnham's** (Augustus B.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 16th Regiment.*

**Farnsworth's** (Addison) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 12th Regiment.*
**Farrington's** (Preston M.) **Cavalry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Fauquier Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Fay's** (Thomas M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 151st Regiment.*
**Fearing's** (Joseph T.) **Cavalry.** See *George W. P. Smith's Cavalry, post.*
**Federhen's** (Jacob) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st (A) Battery.*
**Fellows'** (Charles E.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Ferebee's** (Dennis D.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
**Ferguson's** (Milton J.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
**Ferguson's** (Raymond) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Fernald's** (Granville) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 14th and 21st Regiments.*
**Field's** (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery E.*
**Fife's** (William E.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 36th Regiment.*
**Fisher's** (Marvin P.) **Infantry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Fisk's** (John) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment, Mounted Rifles.*
**Fiske's** (Joseph E.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Fitch's** (Butler) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Battery.*
**Fitzhugh's** (Charles L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Batteries C and E.*
**Fitzhugh's** (Thaddeus) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
**Fletcher's** (Samuel J.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Fletcher's** (Stephen C.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Flood's** (Hugh C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 155th Regiment.*
**Floyd's** (Eldridge G.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Fluvanna Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Fogler's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 19th Regiment.*
**Folk's** (George N.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*
**Follett's** (Frederick M.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery D.*
**Fontaine's** (Clement R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
**Ford's** (Robert H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 106th Regiment.*
**Forney's** (George H.) **Infantry.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 1st Battalion.*
**Forrester's** (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 102d Regiment.*
**Foster's** (C. H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
**Foster's** (George P.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Fox's** (Edward C.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
**Frankle's** (Jones) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Franklin's** (Freeman E.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 34th Regiment.*
**Fraser's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 140th Regiment.*
**Fraser's** (John C.) **Artillery.** See *Pulaski Artillery, post.*
**Fredericksburg Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**French's** (David A.) **Artillery.** See *McComas Artillery, post.*
**French's** (Frank S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Batteries E and G.*
**French's** (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
**Frink's** (Henry A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 186th Regiment.*
**Frost's** (Daniel) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Fuger's** (Frederick) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery A.*
**Fuller's** (George) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Fuller's** (Josiah C.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 32d Regiment.*
**Fuller's** (Nehemiah P.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Funk's** (Augustus) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 39th Regiment.*

**Furst's** (George) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery A.*
**Gamble's** (William) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Gansevoort's** (Henry S.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Garden's** (Hugh R.) **Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, No. 2, post.*
**Gardner's** (David) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Garrard's** (Jeptha) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
**Gary's** (M. W.) **Infantry.** See *Hampton Legion, post.*
**Gaskell's** (William Penn) **Engineers.** See *Pennsylvania Troops.*
**Gates'** (Theodore B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 80th Regiment.*
**Gerhart's** (J. Stanley) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 184th Regiment.*
**Getchell's** (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 150th Regiment.*
**Gibbs'** (Alfred) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 19th Regiment.*
**Gibbs'** (Frank C.) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery L.*
**Gibbs'** (John S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*
**Gibson's** (Augustus A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Gibson's** (Thomas) **Cavalry.*** See *Thomas Gibson.*
**Gilbreth's** (Samuel G.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Company.*
**Gile's** (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 9th Regiment.*
**Giles'** (James) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 29th Regiment.*
**Gilkyson's** (Stephen R.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Gillies'** (Charles F.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Gilliss'** (James) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Batteries C and I.*
**Gilmor's** (Harry W.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion.*
**Gilmore's** (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Gilpin's** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 3d Regiment, P. H. B.*
**Glassie's** (Daniel W.) **Artillery.** See *Seth J. Simmonds' Artillery, post.*
**Glenn's** (John F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 23d Regiment.*
**Glenny's** (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 64th Regiment.*
**Godwin's** (Archibald C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
**Goochland Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Gordon's** (George A.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment.*
**Gordon's** (George A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 63d Regiment.*
**Gordon's** (John S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery K.*
**Gould's** (Ebenezer) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Gould's** (Frank H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Battery.*
**Graham's** (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Petersbury Artillery, post.*
**Graham's** (George W.) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery F.*
**Graham's** (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Purnell Legion, Infantry, post.*
**Graham's** (William L.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
**Grandy's** (Charles R.) **Artillery.** See *Norfolk Blues, Artillery, post.*
**Granger's** (Henry W.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Grantman's** (William) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Graves'** (Charles C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**Graves'** (Frank) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Gray's** (Robert H.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Green's** (Charles A.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Guard, Artillery, post.*
**Greenawalt's** (Jacob W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 110th Regiment.*
**Greenfield's** (Andrew J.) **Cavalry.** See *Ringgold Cavalry, post:* also *Washington Cavalry, post.*
**Griffin's** (Joel R.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 62d Regiment.*
**Griffin's** (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battery.*
**Grill's** (Louis A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery B.*

* Improvised.

**Grimes'** (James F.) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 17th Regiment.*
**Griswold's** (Charles E.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 56th Regiment.*
**Gross'** (Frank P.) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 72d Company.*
**Grover's** (Andrew J.) **Cavalry**. See *Vermont Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Grover's** (Ira G.) **Infantry**. See *Indiana Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Grubb's** (Peter) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Guiney's** (Patrick R.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Guion's** (George M.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 148th Regiment.*
**Guss'** (George W.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 138th Regiment.*
**Guss'** (Henry R.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 97th Regiment.*
**Gustin's** (Richard) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 12th Reserves.*
**Guthrie's** (Herbert F.) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Battery G.*
**Gwyn's** (James) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 118th Regiment.*
**Hagans'** (Harrison H.) **Cavalry**. See *West Virginia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Haggard's** (Calvin) **Infantry**. See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
**Hale's** (Oscar A.) **Infantry**. See *Vermont Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Hall's** (Caldwell K.) **Infantry**. See *New Jersey Troops, 14th Regiment.*
**Hall's** (H. Seymour) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Colored, 43d Regiment.*
**Hall's** (Isaac B.) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
**Hall's** (Norman J.) **Infantry**. See *Michigan Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Hall's** (Thomas M.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 121st Regiment.*
**Hamblin's** (Joseph E.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 65th Regiment.*
**Hamilton's** (Edgar A.) **Cavalry**. See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Hammell's** (John S.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 66th Regiment.*
**Hammond's** (John) **Cavalry**. See *New York Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Hampden Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Hampton Legion**. See *South Carolina Troops.*
**Hankins'** (James De Witt) **Artillery**. See *Surry Artillery, post.*
**Hanley's** (Patrick T.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Hapgood's** (Charles E.) **Infantry**. See *New Hampshire Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Hardaway Artillery**. See *William B. Hurt's Artillery, post.*
**Hardin's** (Mark B.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Battalion.*
**Hargrove Blues, Infantry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Harhaus'** (Otto) **Cavalry**. See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Harlan's** (J. G.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Harman's** (Edwin H.) **Infantry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 45th Regiment.*
**Harman's** (William N.) **Cavalry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 47th Battalion.*
**Harn's** (William A.) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 3d Battery.*
**Harriman's** (Walter) **Infantry**. See *New Hampshire Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Harrison's** (A. T.) **Infantry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
**Harrison's** (C. S.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Battalion, Battery D.*
**Hart's** (George D.) **Cavalry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Hart's** (James F.) **Artillery**. See *Washington (S. C.) Artillery, post.*
**Hart's** (Patrick) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 15th Battery.*
**Hart's** (William T.) **Engineers**. See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment.*
**Hartshorne's** (William R.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Reserves.*
**Hastings'** (Charles W.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Hastings'** (George S.) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 24th Battery.*
**Haurand's** (August) **Cavalry**. See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Hawkes'** (George P.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Hawkins'** (William J.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment, Battery F.*
**Hawthorn's** (Aldus F.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 157th Regiment.*

**Hayes'** (Albert W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 19th Regiment.*
**Hayes'** (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 18th Regiment.*
**Hazard's** (John G.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Head's** (Henry T.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 84th Regiment.*
**Heaton's** (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Batteries B and L.*
**Heine's** (Charles) **Artillery.** See *Michigan Troops, 14th Battery.*
**Helwig's** (Frank B.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 34th Regiment.*
**Hennisee's** (Argalus G.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, E. S.*
**Henry's** (William, jr.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Henry's** (William W.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Hensley's** (James O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Battalion.*
**Herbert's** (James R.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
**Hero's** (Andrew, jr.) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 3d Battery.*
**Hexamer's** (William) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Battery.*
**Higgins'** (Jacob) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 22d Regiment.*
**Hight's** (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 31st Regiment.*
**Hill's** (Hannibal) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 62d Regiment.*
**Hill's** (Wallace) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery C.*
**Hill's** (William A.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
**Hillis'** (David D.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery D.*
**Hines'** (Jonathan D.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Hobensack's** (John) **Cavalry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Hoffman's** (John J.) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Hoffman's** (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery B.*
**Hofmann's** (J. William) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 56th Regiment.*
**Holcombe Legion.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
**Holman's** (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
**Holmes'** (James H.) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery H.*
**Holt's** (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 74th Regiment.*
**Hooper's** (I. Harris) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Hopkins'** (George G.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery E.*
**Hopper's** (George C.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Horn's** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 6th Regiment.*
**Hovey's** (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Howell's** (John H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
**Hudson's** (Edward McK.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 14th Regiment.*
**Hudson's** (Henry W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 82d Regiment.*
**Huger Artillery.** See *Joseph D. Moore's Artillery, post.*
**Hughes'** (James G.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 39th Regiment.*
**Hugo's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 70th Regiment.*
**Huidekoper's** (Henry S.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 150th Regiment.*
**Hulings'** (Thomas M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 49th Regiment.*
**Hull's** (James C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 62d Regiment.*
**Hullinger's** (Josiah C.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Hume's** (F. Charles) **Cavalry Scouts.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 42d Battalion.*
**Humphrey's** (William) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Hunt's** (John S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery L.*
**Huntley's** (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, P. H. B.*
**Hurt's** (William B.) **Artillery.** See *Alabama Troops.*

**Huston's** (John S.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Hutchins'** (Benjamin T.) **Cavalry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Hyde's** (Robert H. S.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Irish's** (Nathaniel) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery F.*
**Irvin's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 149th Regiment.*
**Irwin Artillery.** See *Sumter Artillery, post, Battery C.*
**Jackson's** (Samuel M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Reserves.*
**Jackson's** (Thomas E.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Jaehne's** (Julius) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**James City Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Janeway's** (Hugh H.) **Cavalry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Jeff. Davis Artillery.** See *Alabama Troops.*
**Jeff. Davis Legion, Cavalry.** See *Mississippi Troops.*
**Jenckes'** (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Jenkins'** (David T.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 146th Regiment.*
**Jenkins'** (Horatio, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 40th Regiment.*
**Jenkins'** (Samuel H.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Jewett's** (Albert B.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Johannes'** (John G.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
**Johns'** (Thomas D.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Johnson's** (Daniel D.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 14th Regiment.*
**Johnson's** (Dutee, jr.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery A.*
**Johnson's** (George W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 49th Regiment.*
**Johnson's** (James) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps.*
**Johnson's** (John T.) **Artillery.** See *George S. Davidson's Artillery, ante.*
**Johnson's** (Thomas I.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
**Johnston Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Jones'** (Andrew J.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pamunkey Heavy Artillery, post.*
**Jones'** (Archibald F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 53d Regiment.*
**Jones'** (Beuhring H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 60th Regiment.*
**Jones'** (Edward J.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 11th Battery.*
**Jones'** (Edward S.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Jones'** (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 150th Regiment.*
**Jones'** (John G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 35th Regiment.*
**Jones'** (Noah) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Jordan's** (John V.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
**Jordan's** (Robert B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 84th Regiment.*
**Kalt's** (Hyron) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 158th Regiment.*
**Karples'** (Henry M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 52d Regiment.*
**Keenan's** (John B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Keene's** (John R.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, E. S.*
**Keeper's** (John V.) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery B.*
**Keese's** (Oliver, jr.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 118th Regiment.*
**Keifer's** (J. Warren) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 110th Regiment.*
**Kelley's Artillery.** (Official designation not of record.) See *Lieutenant Kelley.*
**Kelley's** (Samuel H.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Kellogg's** (Elisha S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Kellogg's** (Horace) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 123d Regiment.*
**Kellogg's** (Josiah H.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 17th Regiment.*
**Kelly's** (James R.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Batteries C, F, and K.*
**Kenan's** (Thomas S.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 43d Regiment.*
**Kennedy's** (John T.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 62d Regiment.*

**Kenny's** (William) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Kerwin's** (Michael) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Kesler's** (Joseph K.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 46th Battalion.*
**Ketchum's** (William A.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Kevill's** (Thomas) **Artillery.** See *United Artillery, post.*
**Keyes'** (Daniel M.) **Cavalry.** See *Loudoun Rangers, post.*
**Kidd's** (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Kiddoo's** (Joseph B.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 22d Regiment.*
**Kimball's** (Melville C.) **Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 4th Battery.*
**Kimball's** (Thomas D.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Batteries A and B.*
**Kincheloe's** (James C.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**King's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**King and Queen Home Guards.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**King William Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Kleinz's** (Christopher) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Kleiser's** (Alfred von) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 30th Battery.*
**Knight's** (Napoleon B.) **Cavalry.** See *Delaware Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Knox's** (Edward B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 44th Regiment.*
**Knox's** (Robert T.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 2d Battalion, 50th Company.*
**Kochersperger's** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 71st Regiment.*
**Kohler's** (John B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 98th Regiment.*
**Kopp's** (William) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 82d Regiment.*
**Kunkle's** (Michael) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 56th Regiment.*
**Kusserow's** (Charles) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 32d Battery.*
**Ladd's** (James D.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Battery.*
**Lafayette Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops.*
**Lakeman's** (Moses B.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 3d Regiment*
**Lamb's** (John C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
**Lamkin's** (James N.) **Artillery.** See *Nelson Artillery, post.*
**La Motte's** (Charles E.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Langley's** (John F.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Lansing's** (Jacob H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 86th Regiment.*
**Latham's** (George R.) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Lazelle's** (Henry M.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Lee Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Lee's** (Horace C.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 27th Regiment.*
**Lee's** (Richard H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Battery.*
**Le Gendre's** (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 51st Regiment.*
**Lehmann's** (Theodore F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 103d Regiment.*
**Leib's** (Edward H.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment.*
**Leidy's** (Asher S.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 99th Regiment.*
**Lemon's** (William) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 8th Reserves.*
**Leonard's** (John) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 72d Regiment.*
**Lessig's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 96th Regiment.*
**Letcher Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Levi's** (John T.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Lewis'** (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Lewis'** (James) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps.*
**Lewis'** (John R.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Lewis'** (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Lewis'** (William) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Lincoln Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Lincoln's** (Theodore, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 6th Regiment.*

**Lipscomb's** (T. J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Little Fork Rangers, Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
**Lloyd's** (Samuel T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 121st Regiment.*
**Lockhart's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 72d Regiment.*
**Lockwood's** (Abram L.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 120th Regiment.*
**Lockwood's** (Jonathan H.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Long's** (James W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment.*
**Long's** (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 93d Regiment.*
**Long's** (William W.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Lord's** (Nathan B.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Loudoun Rangers, Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Union.*
**Louisiana Guard, Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops.*
**Love's** (James R.) **Infantry.** See *W. H. Thomas' Legion, post.*
**Low's** (Thomas) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 23d Battery.*
**Lowry's** (Francis M.) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery E.*
**Lowry's** (William M.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Luce's** (Constant) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 17th Regiment*
**Lumbard's** (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Lunenburg Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Lurty's** (Warren S.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Lusk's** (Isaac M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 111th Regiment.*
**Lusk's** (Thurlow W.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Lyle's** (Peter) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 90th Regiment.*
**Lynch's** (Charles M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 145th Regiment.*
**Lynch's** (William A ) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 42d Regiment.*
**Lyons'** (Charles A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**McAfee's** (John) **Artillery.** See *Illinois Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery L.*
**McAfee's** (Lee M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 49th Regiment.*
**McAllister's** (Robert) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**McCabe's** (George F.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**McCalmont's** (Alfred B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 142d Regiment.*
**McCarthy's** (Edward S.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Howitzers, post, 1st Company.*
**McCartney's** (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st (A) Battery.*
**McCaslin's** (Maxwell) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**McChesney's** (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**McClanahan's** (J. H.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**McClennan's** (Matthew R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 138th Regiment.*
**McClung's** (A. P.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
**McClung's** (Hugh L. W.) **Artillery.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
**McClure's** (William S.) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**McComas Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**McConihe's** (John) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 169th Regiment.*
**McConihe's** (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 93d Regiment.*
**McConn's** (George W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 158th Regiment.*
**MacConnell's** (Charles C.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery I.*
**McCoy's** (De Witt C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 83d Regiment.*
**McCullough's** (John F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 140th Regiment.*
**McCullough's** (Peter) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**MacDonald's** (Christopher R.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 47th Regiment.*
**McDonough's** (Patrick) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Reserves.*
**McElroy's** (James N.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 60th Regiment.*
**McFadden's** (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 59th Regiment.*
**McGilvray's** (John) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery C.*

**McGowan's** (Thomas S.) **Infantry.** See *Patapsco Guards, post.*
**McGrath's** (Eugene, sr.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery F.*
**McGraw's** (Joseph) **Artillery.** See *Purcell Artillery, post.*
**McGregor's** (William M.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**McGruder's** (William M.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 42d Battalion.*
**McIlrath's** (James P.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 23d Regiment.*
**McIntyre's** (Martin V.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Battery.*
**McIvor's** (James P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 170th Regiment.*
**McKamy's** (James A.) **Infantry.** See *W. H. Thomas' Legion, post.*
**McKee's** (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 155th Regiment.*
**McKeen's** (H. Boyd) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 81st Regiment.*
**McKethan's** (Hector) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment.*
**McKiernan's** (James) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**McKinley's** (Norval) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, P. H. B.*
**McKnight's** (George F.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 12th Battery.*
**McKnight's** (James) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery M.*
**McLaughlen's** (Napoleon B.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**McLaughlin's** (Robert W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery I.*
**McLean's** (George P.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 183d Regiment.*
**McMahan's** (John) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**McMahon's** (Andrew R.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 15th Battery.*
**McMahon's** (James P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 164th Regiment.*
**McMichael's** (Richards) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 53d Regiment.*
**McMullin's** (James R.) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 1st Battery.*
**McNary's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 158th Regiment.*
**McNeel's** (William L.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
**McNeill's** (John H.) **Partisans.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Macon Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
**McPherson's** (Samuel W.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 25th Regiment.*
**McReynolds'** (Andrew T.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**McVicker's** (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Macy's** (George N.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Madill's** (Henry J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 141st Regiment.*
**Madison Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops.*
**Madison Light Artillery.** See *Mississippi Troops.*
**Magee's** (J. J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Maginnis'** (James) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Majtheny's** (Theodore) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Manly's** (Basil C.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
**Mann's** (Daniel P.) **Cavalry.** See *Oneida Cavalry, post.*
**Mann's** (Nehemiah H.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Mann's** (Orrin L.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 39th Regiment.*
**Mansfield's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Markell's** (William L.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Marsh's** (John F.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 24th Regiment.*
**Marshall's** (J. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
**Martin's** (Augustus P.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 3d (C) Battery.*
**Martin's** (Joseph W.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 6th Battery.*
**Martin's** (Leonard) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery F.*
**Martin's** (Montgomery) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 58th Regiment.*
**Martin's** (S. Taylor) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

**Martin's** (William F.) **Infantry**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
**Marye's** (Edward A.) **Artillery**. See *Fredericksburg Artillery, ante.*
**Marye's** (Morton) **Infantry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
**Maryland Line**. See *Maryland Troops, Confederate.*
**Mason's** (Edwin C.) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Mason's** (Julius W.) **Cavalry**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment.*
**Mason's** (Philip D.) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Massey's** (Elijah E.) **Infantry**. See *Maryland Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, E. S.*
**Mathews Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Mattocks'** (Charles P.) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 17th Regiment.*
**Mattocks'** (Charles P.) **Sharpshooters**.* See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 1st Regiment.*
**Maulsby's** (Thomas A.) **Artillery**. See *West Virginia Troops, Battery F.*
**Maurin's** (Victor) **Artillery**. See *Donaldsonville Artillery, ante.*
**May's** (A. J.) **Cavalry**. See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment.*
**Mayo's** (Ezekiel R.) **Artillery**. See *Maine Troops, 3d Battery.*
**Means'** (Samuel C.) **Cavalry**. See *Loudoun Rangers, ante.*
**Meikel's** (George W.) **Infantry**.* See *Michigan Troops, 3d and 5th Regiments;* also *New York Troops, 40th Regiment.*
**Mendell's** (George H.) **Engineers**. See *George H. Mendell.*
**Mercer's** (John T.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Mercereau's** (Charles L.) **Cavalry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 22d Regiment.*
**Merriam's** (Gustavus F.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Merriam's** (Waldo) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Merritt's** (Robert B.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 75th Regiment.*
**Meservey's** (Charles C.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Wisconsin Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Messenger's** (Daniel) **Cavalry**.* See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment;* also *New Hampshire Troops, 13th Regiment.*
**Metcalf's** (Richard) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery C.*
**Michalowski's** (Theophilus B. von) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery I.*
**Miles'** (John B.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 49th Regiment.*
**Milledge Artillery**. See *Georgia Troops.*
**Millen's** (John M.) **Cavalry**. See *Georgia Troops, 20th Battalion.*
**Miller's** (Francis C.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 147th Regiment.*
**Milton's** (Richard S.) **Artillery**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th Battery.*
**Miner's** (Milton L.) **Artillery**. See *Indiana Troops, 17th Battery.*
**Miner's** (William H.) **Artillery**. See *Indiana Troops, 17th Battery.*
**Mink's** (Charles E.) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Mitchell's** (John F. B.) **Cavalry**. See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Mitchell's** (William) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 108th Company.*
**Mix's** (John) **Cavalry**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d and 5th Regiments.*
**Mix's New Cavalry**. See *New York Troops, 23d Battalion.*
**Mlotkowski's** (Stanislaus) **Artillery**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery A.*
**Moegling's** (William C.) **Infantry**. See *Connecticut Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Moesch's** (Joseph A.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 83d Regiment.*
**Moffett's** (Samuel G.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 26th Regiment.*
**Monroe Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Montague's** (Edgar B.) **Infantry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 32d Regiment.*
**Montgomery True Blues, Artillery**. See *Alabama Troops.*
**Moody's** (William H.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 139th Regiment.*
**Moore's** (Alexander C.) **Artillery**. See *West Virginia Troops, Battery E.*

* Temporarily commanding.

**Moore's** (Alexander D.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 66th Regiment.*
**Moore's** (Caleb) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Moore's** (John W.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion.*
**Moore's** (Joseph D.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Moore's** (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 14th Regiment.*
**Moore's** (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 62d Regiment.*
**Moorman's** (Marcellus N.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Moorman's** (Robert B.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
**Moran's** (James) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Moroney's** (Richard) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 69th Regiment.*
**Morris Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Morris'** (Lewis O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Morris'** (Robert M.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 6th Regiment.*
**Morris'** (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Morrison's** (Andrew J.) **Cavalry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Morrison's** (David) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 79th Regiment.*
**Morrison's** (Joseph J.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Morton's** (Howard) **Artillery.** See *West Virginia Troops, Battery G.*
**Morton's** (Peter) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Battery.*
**Mosby's** (John S.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 43d Battalion.*
**Moseley's** (Edgar F.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
**Moulton's** (Orson) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
**Muhlenberg's** (Charles P.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery A.*
**Mulligan's** (James A.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 23d Regiment.*
**Murchison's** (Kenneth M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 54th Regiment.*
**Murray's** (Edward) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Myer's** (Aaron B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 125th Regiment.*
**Myers'** (Henry A.) **Cavalry.** See *Ringgold Cavalry, post.*
**Naval Battalion, Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Battalion, Local Defense.*
**Neall's** (Isaac J.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 9th Regiment.*
**Neblett Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Nelson Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Nelson Artillery, No. 2.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Nevin's** (David J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 62d Regiment.*
**Nevin's** (John I.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 93d Regiment.*
**Nevin's** (Robert J.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery I.*
**Newton's** (Charles B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery C.*
**New York 1st Dragoons, Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 19th Regiment.*
**New York 2d Militia, Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 82d Regiment.*
**New York 9th Militia, Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 83d Regiment.*
**New York 14th Militia, Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 84th Regiment.*
**New York 20th Militia, Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 80th Regiment.*
**New York 69th National Guard Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 182d Regiment Infantry.*
**Nichols'** (Eli S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment, Battery B.*
**Niles'** (Alanson E.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Reserves;* also *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 11th Regiment.*
**Nixon's** (Richard) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 99th Regiment.*
**Norcom's** (Joe) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 4th Battery.*
**Norfolk Blues, Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

**North Anna Home Guards.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**North Carolina Second Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 36th Regiment.*
**North Carolina Third Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 37th Regiment.*
**Northrup's** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 97th Regiment.*
**Nounnan's** (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
**Nowlen's** (Garrett) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 116th Regiment.*
**Obenchain's** (Francis G.) **Artillery.** See *Botetourt Artillery, ante.*
**O'Ferrall's** (Charles T.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**O'Hara's** (John) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Olcott's** (Egbert) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 121st Regiment.*
**Olcott's** (Egbert W.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery C.*
**Oley's** (John H.) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Oliphant's** (Samuel D.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps.*
**Oliver's** (Samuel C.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Batteries E and F.*
**Onderdonk's** (Benjamin F.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**O'Neal's** (Edward A.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 26th Regiment.*
**Oneida Cavalry.** See *New York Troops.*
**Opp's** (Milton) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 84th Regiment.*
**Orange Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**O'Riordon's** (Callaghan H.) **Artillery.** See *Michigan Troops, 13th Battery.*
**Orr's** (James L.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Rifles.*
**Orwig's** (Thomas G.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
**Osborn's** (Francis A.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 24th Regiment.*
**Otey Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Otis'** (Charles G.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 21st Regiment.*
**Otis'** (John L.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Over's** (Ewald) **Infantry.** See *Exempts' Battalion, ante.*
**Overton's** (Edward, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 50th Regiment.*
**Owen's** (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 1st Battery.*
**Page's** (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment.*
**Palmer's** (Charles W.) **Cavalry.** See *Purnell Legion, Cavalry, post.*
**Palmer's** (Frederic S.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 6th Regiment.*
**Palmetto Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
**Palmetto Artillery, No. 2.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
**Pamunkey Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Paris'** (Andrew B.) **Artillery.** See *Staunton Hill Artillery, post.*
**Parker's** (Nathan) **Cavalry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
**Parker's** (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Parnell's** (William R.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Parsons'** (Joseph B.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Patapsco Guards, Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
**Patterson's** (George M.) **Artillery.** See *Sumter Artillery, post, Battery B.*
**Patterson's** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 102d Regiment.*
**Patton's** (George S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
**Patton's** (William) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Payne's** (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 37th Battalion.*
**Peale's** (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 18th Regiment.*
**Pearson's** (Alfred L.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 155th Regiment.*
**Pearson's** (Henry H.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Pee Dee Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
**Pence's** (J. H.) **Artillery.** See *William M. Lowry's Artillery, ante.*
**Penick's** (Nathan) **Artillery.** See *John W. Lewis' Artillery, ante.*
**Peninsula Scouts, Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 42d Battalion.*

**Pennington's** (Alexander C. M., jr.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Battery M.*
**Pennsylvania 1st Rifles, Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Reserves.*
**Penrose's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Perrine's** (Henry A.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Perry's** (Robert C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 111th Regiment.*
**Petersburg Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Pettes'** (William H.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 50th Regiment.*
**Phelps'** (Charles E.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 7th Regiment.*
**Phillips'** (Charles A.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 5th (E) Battery.*
**Phillips'** (James J.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
**Phillips Legion.** See *Georgia Troops.*
**Phillips'** (William H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery C.*
**Pickett's** (Josiah) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
**Pierce's** (Byron R.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Pierce's** (Francis E.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 108th Regiment.*
**Pierce's** (Lewis B.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Pingree's** (Samuel E.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Pingree's** (Stephen M.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Piper's** (Alexander) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Piper's** (James W.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery E.*
**Pleasants'** (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 48th Regiment.*
**Plimpton's** (Josiah I.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Pollard's** (James) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
**Poor's** (Walter S.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
**Porter's** (David E.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
**Potter's** (George F.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery C.*
**Potts'** (John R.) **Artillery.** See *Branch Artillery, ante.*
**Powell's** (Edward H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 10th Regiment.*
**Powhatan Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Pratt's** (Benjamin F.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 36th Regiment.*
**Pratt's** (Franklin A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery M.*
**Prescott's** (George L.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 32d Regiment.*
**Preston's** (Addison W.) **Cavalry.** See *Vermont Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Prey's** (Gilbert G.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 104th Regiment.*
**Pridemore's** (Auburn L.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 64th Regiment.*
**Pulaski Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
**Pulford's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Pulsifer's** (Alfred H.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery A.*
**Purcell Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Purington's** (George A.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Purnell Legion, Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
**Purnell Legion, Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
**Purnell's** (Washington I.) **Cavalry.** See *Purnell Legion, Cavalry, ante.*
**Pye's** (Edward) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 95th Regiment.*
**Quartermaster's Battalion, Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion, Local Defense.*
**Quinn's** (Timothy) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment (Lincoln).*
**Quirk's** (James) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 23d Regiment.*
**Radcliffe's** (James D.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 61st Regiment.*
**Rafferty's** (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 71st Regiment.*
**Ramsay's** (John A.) **Artillery.** See *Rowan Artillery, post.*

**Ramsey's** (David M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 101st Regiment.*
**Ramsey's** (John) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Ramsey's** (Joseph F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Battalion.*
**Randol's** (Alanson M.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Batteries H and I.*
**Rank's** (William D.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery H.*
**Rankin's** (William S.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 21st Regiment.*
**Ransom's** (Alfred) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 23d Battery.*
**Ransom's** (Dunbar R.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Battery C.*
**Raulston's** (William C.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 24th Regiment.*
**Ray's** (Richard M.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, Battery D.*
**Read's** (J. P. W.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 38th Battalion.*
**Read's** (Samuel B. M.) **Infantry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Reckard's** (Frank B.) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Regan's** (Peter C.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Battery.*
**Reid's** (Thomas M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 182d Regiment.*
**Reilly's** (William A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 115th Regiment.*
**Reinhold's** (Reuben) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 17th Regiment.*
**Reynolds'** (Gilbert H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Batteries E and L.*
**Rhett Artillery.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
**Rhoads'** (George B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 88th Regiment.*
**Rhodes'** (William B.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
**Rice's** (Edmund) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 19th Regiment.*
**Rice's** (R. Sidney) **Artillery.** See *Danville Artillery, ante.*
**Richards'** (Thomas J.) **Artillery.** See *Madison Light Artillery, ante.*
**Richardson's** (J. B.) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 2d Battery.*
**Richardson's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
**Richardson's** (Lucien W.) **Artillery.** See *James City Artillery, ante.*
**Richardson's** (Samuel W.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Richmond Battalion, Artillery.** See *Richmond Howitzers, post.*
**Richmond Fayette Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Richmond Howitzers, Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Ricketts'** (R. Bruce) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*
**Rider's** (Henry W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Rigby's** (James H.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, Battery A.*
**Riggs'** (William J.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery H.*
**Ringgold Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Ringgold Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops.*
**Ripley's** (Edward H.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Ritchie's** (David F.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
**Rittenhouse's** (Benjamin F.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery D.*
**Rives'** (J. Henry) **Artillery.** See *Nelson Artillery, No. 2, ante.*
**Roberts'** (Horatio) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 143d Company.*
**Roberts'** (Joseph) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Roberts'** (Samuel H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 139th Regiment.*
**Robertson's** (James E.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 20th Battalion.*
**Robertson's** (John C.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Battery F.*

**Robertson's** (John R.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 42d Battalion.*
**Robins'** (W. T.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 42d Battalion.*
**Robinson's** (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 30th Regiment, Colored.*
**Robinson's** (O'Neil W., jr.) **Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 4th Battery.*
**Robinson's** (William W.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Robison's** (John K.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Roche's** (Charles H.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Rockbridge Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Rockbridge Artillery, No. 2.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Rockwell's** (Alfred P.) **Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Battery.*
**Rockwood's** (Theodore H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 19th Regiment.*
**Roder's** (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery K.*
**Roemer's** (Jacob) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 34th Battery.*
**Rogers'** (Edward W.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 19th Battery.*
**Rogers'** (George) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 4th Regiment.*
**Rogers'** (Isaac) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 110th Regiment.*
**Rogers'** (Robert E ) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Rohrman's** (William G.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery A.*
**Rollins'** (Adonijah W.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Root's** (Augustus I.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Rosney's** (Andrew) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*
**Ross'** (Hugh M.) **Artillery.** See *Sumter Artillery, post, Battery A.*
**Rowan Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
**Rugg's** (Horace P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 59th Regiment.*
**Rutherford's** (Allan) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 22d Regiment.*
**Rutledge Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Rutledge's** (B. Huger) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Rutledge's** (Henry M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*
**Ryan's** (George) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 140th Regiment.*
**Ryerson's** (Henry O.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 10th Regiment.*
**Rylander's** (John E.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 10th Battalion.*
**Sackett's** (William) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Salem Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Sampson's** (Ira B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
**Sanford's** (Oliver S.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Sanger's** (Joseph P.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Battery E*
**Sargent's** (Horace B.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Savage's** (James W.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 12th Regiment.*
**Saviers'** (Lemuel) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 26th Regiment.*
**Sawyer's** (Franklin) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 8th Regiment.*
**Schall's** (Edwin) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 51st Regiment.*
**Schall's** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 87th Regiment.*
**Scheibner's** (Eugene W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Regiment.*
**Scherff's** (Martin) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 19th Regiment.*
**Scherrer's** (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 7th and 52d Regiments.*
**Schirmer's** (Louis) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
**Schley's** (Benjamin H.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
**Schley's** (William L.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 5th Regiment.*
**Schubert's** (Emil) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 9th Battery.*
**Schulz's** (Carl) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Battery.*
**Scott's** (Alexander) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Scott's** (Henry D.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 16th Battery.*

**Scroggs'** (Gustavus A.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 25th Regiment.*
**Sears'** (Thomas D.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment, 1st Battalion.*
**Seaver's** (Thomas O.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 3d Regiment.*
**Seeley's** (Aaron P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 111th Regiment.*
**Seeley's** (Francis W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps.*
**Seipe's** (David Z.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Battalion.*
**Serrell's** (Edward W.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Seward's** (William H., jr.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 9th Regiment.*
**Sewell's** (William J.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Sharra's** (Abram) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Shaw's** (H. M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
**Shaw's** (James, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 7th Regiment.*
**Sheldon's** (Albert S.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
**Sherwin's** (Thomas, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 22d Regiment.*
**Shields'** (Joseph C.) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 19th Battery.*
**Shingler's** (William P.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Regiment;* also *Holcombe Legion, ante.*
**Shipman's** (Volney J.) **Sharpshooters.** See *New York Troops, 1st Battalion.*
**Shoemaker's** (J. J.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Showalter's** (John H.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
**Sickel's** (Horatio G.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Reserves.*
**Sides'** (Peter) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 57th Regiment.*
**Simmonds'** (Seth J.) **Artillery.** See *Kentucky Troops, Union.*
**Simpson's** (Benjamin L.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 9th Regiment.*
**Simpson's** (John G.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
**Sinex's** (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 91st Regiment.*
**Sisson's** (Henry T.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment.*
**Slack's** (Hedgeman) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
**Slaten's** (C. W.) **Artillery.** See *Macon Artillery, ante.*
**Sleeper's** (J. Henry) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 10th Battery.*
**Smith's** (Charles H.) **Cavalry.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
**Smith's** (C. T.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 36th Battalion.*
**Smith's** (Frank) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 3d Company.*
**Smith's** (Frederick F.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
**Smith's** (George F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 61st Regiment.*
**Smith's** (George W. P.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
**Smith's** (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 36th Regiment.*
**Smoot's** (David L.) **Artillery.** See *Alexandria Artillery, ante.*
**Snider's** (Joseph) **Cavalry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 4th Regiment.*
**Snow's** (Alonzo) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, Battery B.*
**Southerland's** (Thomas J.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery I.*
**Southside Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
**Spangler's** (Aaron) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 110th Regiment.*
**Spear's** (Ellis) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 20th Regiment.*
**Spear's** (Samuel P.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
**Spear's** (Vivian K.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 95th Company.*
**Speece's** (Le Grand B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 7th Reserves.*
**Speer's** (William F.) **Cavalry.** See *Lafayette Cavalry, ante.*
**Speidel's** (John) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Veteran Reserve Corps, 3d Regiment.*
**Spence's** (Beldin) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery F;* also *Battery G.*
**Spencer's** (James) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*

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